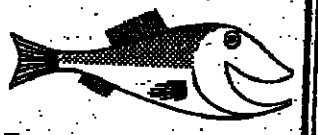


THE TIMES Tomorrow

Eat hearty
How to eat your way into
a healthy body



Past glory
Fred Perry on how
television and money
have changed the face of
the gentlemanly game of
tennis

After Brazil
... can England keep it
up? Stuart Jones
previews the match
against Uruguay on
Wednesday

Best of British
Fifty years of promoting
Britain. A Special Report
on the British Council

Soviet hint of freeze in relations

The Kremlin has hinted at a four-year freeze in East-West relations if President Reagan is re-elected, Mr Leonid Zamyatin, speech at the Central Committee International Information Department said Moscow's hard line toward Washington was not determined by the election but by American policy under Mr Reagan. Diplomats said this suggested the Kremlin would not change its policy and come to terms with Mr Reagan if he won. **Leading article, page 15**

43 killed in Beirut shelling

At least 43 people were killed and more than 200 wounded as a shelling swept over Muslim and Christian sectors of Beirut in the worst round of civil warfare in many months. **Earlier report, page 6**

Louise arrest

London detectives investigating the disappearance of Louise Brown, the 15-day-old baby suffering from Down's Syndrome who vanished three weeks ago, last night arrested Mrs Mary Brown, her grandmother.



Bishop elected

The Dean and Chapter of Durham Cathedral elected Professor David Jenkins to be the next Bishop of Durham.

Gulf shelling

With a ceasefire for civilian targets due to start at midnight last night, Iraq said that it had earlier hit Dezful in Iran in retaliation for the day-long shelling of Basra.

Souness signs

Graeme Souness, captain of Liverpool football team, has signed a three-year contract with Sampdoria, the Italian first division club. More than 2,000 supporters greeted his arrival in Genoa.

Leader page, 15

Letters, On Irish security, from Lt-Col J C Wakerley, English speaking, from Mr J L Jones, and others.

Leading articles: IMF, Common

Features, pages 11-14
Outlawing chemical weapons; Roger Scruton's Euro-election advice; Spectrum: Fred Perry on McEnroe. Tuesday page: continuing our fit-to-eat guide. Fashion: many a slip.

Computer Horizons, pages 17-19

A degree of help: graduates in the computer world; your queries answered; from the secretary's desk to the management table: the micro's new status.

Obituary, page 16

Signor Enrico Berlinguer, Dr M A Cotton.

Classified, pages 28 to 30

Legal appointments

Pit package to offer higher pay and output

By Paul Roudledge, Labour Editor

The National Coal Board is preparing a new Plan for Coal offering "substantially higher" pay to a smaller workforce and a 25 per cent increase in output by the year 2000.

Elements of the draft package to be discussed with National Union of Mineworkers leaders were disclosed to *The Times* yesterday by Mr Ian MacGregor, coal board chairman.

But the strike looks certain to drag on for at least another month until the miners' delegates conference on July 11-12 after statements yesterday from national union officials that any settlement would have to be approved by that body.

The MacGregor Plan, designed to supersede the 1974 Plan for Coal, will propose:

- Annual deep-mined output of 125 to 150 million tonnes a year by 1995/2000, compared with the 1984/85 figure of 100 million tonnes;
- Coal board "recovery of responsibility for managing the industry";
- Continuing consultation with the mining unions;
- "Substantially higher" wages for a smaller workforce;
- Closure of uneconomic pits.

Parts will appeal to union negotiators, who are continuing talks with the coal board this week. But it is clear that the main stumbling-block of closing pits that are "economically non-viable" remains.

Mr Arthur Scargill, union president, who is described by Mr MacGregor as "a Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde" character, repeated yesterday his assertion that despite the continuation of secret talks there would be no secret deals. Any proposed settlement would have to go before the union's delegate conference, a view confirmed by the general secretary Mr Peter Heathfield.

As the strike goes into its fourteenth week, events in the moderate Nottinghamshire coalfield showed a further swing away from militancy.

Elections for branch office in six pits have unseated men who support the strike in favour of miners who have continued working. One casualty is Mr Gordon Skinner, delegate at Mr Gedling Colliery and brother of the Labour MP Mr Dennis Skinner.

But attention is expected now to focus on the coal board's strategy for a return to work formula. The union national executive meets in Sheffield on Thursday on Thursday to hear a progress report, and it seems certain that negotiators will be given a mandate to continue talking.

So far, little has been put on the table, and Mr Heathfield yesterday offered bargaining sessions of 24 or 48 hours "as quickly as possible" to break the logjam. "For the first time, the board are negotiating since Mr MacGregor became chairman."

"I am optimistic that the board will be persuaded to move away from the adamant position it adopted originally."

His optimism is matched in a different direction by Mr MacGregor, who detects that the union is now "grappling with the real problems" after a three-month strike that has closed at least two thirds of the pits.

Mr MacGregor would not put

a timetable on the negotiations but said that the longer the strike lasted the less able the board would be to adhere to its pledge of no compulsory redundancies. "If we end up with 30 pits that are inoperable, then I don't know how we can handle the problem of the people involved."

The union argues that agreement already vouchsafed in the talks for the closure of exhausted pits and other mines experiencing insuperable geological problems should be enough to take care of the four million-tonne reduction in capacity sought by the board in this financial year.

But Mr MacGregor's comments point clearly to a redefined management authority to close "uneconomic" collieries and on this issue the current round of talks may break down. Mr MacGregor wants a more precisely-written Plan for Coal giving the board explicit powers to shut down non-viable pits and if he does not get it he gives a warning that the £900m a year investment programme is new capacity would be at risk.

Yesterday, 41 pits were working normally, with 118 strikebound. A further 13 were partially affected of which seven were producing coal.

There was heavy picketing by 1,200 strikers at Creswell colliery in the Nottinghamshire area of the NUM. There were 800 pickets at Shirebrook colliery and 356 men reported for work in the NCB's Derbyshire area more than half of them at Bolsover.

Parliament, page 4
MacGregor interview, back page



Prince Andrew climbing out of his Lynx helicopter yesterday after making a perfect landing on his new ship, the frigate HMS Brazen.

Job offers for Mirror chairman

By Philip Robinson

Fresh doubts over the Stock Exchange flotation of Mirror Group Newspapers (MGN) emerged last night with the suggestion that the chairman, Mr Clive Thornton, was seriously considering offers of two jobs elsewhere.

Mr Thornton, former chairman of the Abbey National Building Society and known for his abrasive manner, is said to have upset members of his own board and to be finding difficulty in reaching agreement with Reed International, the parent company of MGN.

Mr Thornton said yesterday: "I cannot deny I have had offers but I am on a five-year contract and I intend to put the Mirror back to its rightful position."

"As evidence, we have just had our best month for profits. I do not quit jobs and I am staying until this is finished."

Suggestion of Mr Thornton's departure came amid speculation that MGN might have to introduce a redundancy scheme to reduce manning rather than rely on natural wastage.

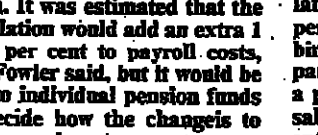
No union agreements on manning have been reached, and there has also been no agreement yet with Reed International on assets, debt and cash for the Mirror Group company.

Details of the flotation are expected next month. But the original sale estimate of £100m for the six-newspaper company has now been revised to £80m by City analysts.

MGN's stake in the Reuters news agency had been calculated at £70m, with the group's assets and profits valued at £30m.

But since then, the Reuters price has caused concern, and the profits of MGN, disclosed last week, have fallen sharply.

Merchant banking sources confirmed last night that MGN may face a sizable redundancy bill in three years anyway.



Mr Thornton: "I am staying here."

Indian Army quells Sikh mutineers

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

Enraged Sikh soldiers seized their weapons and commandeered buses and civilian trucks and set off down the road towards Uttar Pradesh on the way to Amritsar.

The authorities yesterday closed Varanasi, the holy city on the Ganges (formerly known as Benares), to protect it as the flying column of deserters swept by.

At the same time, further details from Amritsar showed that the full horror of the military onslaught on the temple complex "has" still not been completely told.

According to a reporter for an international news agency, who stayed behind when the rest of the foreign correspondents were thrown out of Punjab, the death toll in the storming of the complex was 1,000: 200 hundred soldiers and 800 civilians.

The Sikh mutiny occurred in army bases at Ramgarh in Bihar at Pune, the legendary home of Indian Army colonels that used to be called Poona, and at Ranbirsinghpura in Jammu and Kashmir.

In each place the soldiers were incited to desert by civilian agitators and headed for Punjab state. In Ramgarh the mutinous troops shot the commander of the Sikh Regimental Training Depot, Brigadier R. D. Puri. They then

commandeered buses and civilian trucks and set off down the road towards Uttar Pradesh on the way to Amritsar.

The authorities yesterday closed Varanasi, the holy city on the Ganges (formerly known as Benares), to protect it as the flying column of deserters swept by.

But by the time they reached Allahabad the steam had gone out of their fury. They abandoned their vehicles and the Defence Ministry reported that the majority were apprehended at the nearby regimental town of Jhans.

The spokesman added he expected the rest to be picked up shortly.

At Pune the Sikh soldiers commandeered military lorries with machine-guns and shot at passers-by on the road. They killed one scooter rider.

They careered towards Bombay, announcing that they intended to seize the airport there, but they were stopped when they got to the outskirts. Again the majority of them were arrested, but reports said that some who evaded arrest set our northwards for Rajasthan, heading for Punjab.

Amritsar witness, page 7

Aslef men halt Notts coal trains

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Railway workers at a key depot in Nottinghamshire were sent home by Aslef pickets yesterday to protest against the transport unions' decision to stop support for the miners, and there were indications that voluntary agreements covering deliveries to steelworks are at risk.

Workers at British Rail's Shirebrook depot, that supplies coal to the power stations at Ratcliffe and Marnham from 14 pits, were asked if they were prepared to take coal trains out and 33 of the depot's 140 men refused and were sent home without pay.

Mr Ray Buckton, general secretary of the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen (Aslef), said last night that the first day of the intensified coal blockade had also been marked by British Rail taking a stronger line.

The executive of the National Union of Railwaymen (NUR) last night joined Aslef in instructing its members not to cross miners' picket lines anywhere in the country and to refuse to transport fuel into power stations and coke and coal into steelworks.

The Shirebrook depot had been seen as crucial to the National Union of Mineworkers' attempts to minimize the impact made by those Nottinghamshire miners working normally. Mr Buckton and Mr

Jimmy Knapp, general secretary of the NUR, made personal appeals last week to join at the depot after pressure from Mr Arthur Scargill.

Yesterday's decision by the Shirebrook men had minimal impact because colleagues who later reported for duty took out the trains that were idle. Of the 17 trains planned to run, British Rail reported that 16 operated normally, but a clearer picture could emerge today with the NUR instructions becoming effective.

Llanwern, in south Wales, was the first steelworks to experience difficulties yesterday because of the supportive action on the railways. Aslef members in south Wales said they would later reported for duty a week ago between the miners and steelworkers union as necessary to keep the plant safe.

Rail freight losses, page 2

Lords anger at abolition paving Bill

By Philip Webster
Political Reporter

A former leader of the Greater London Council last night led a Conservative revolt in the Lords against the Government's plans to abolish next year's elections to the GLC and to Metropolitan County Councils.

Lord Plummer of St Marylebone was speaking during the second reading debate on the Local Government (Interim Provisions) bill which was subjected to a barrage of criticism from the Alliance and Labour parties, from the Churches and from other Conservative peers.

Lord Plummer, who led the GLC from 1967 to 1973, said that the Bill was bad for London and bad for the country. It had been hastily assembled and not properly thought through. In the long run it would be bad for Parliament and for the Conservative Party if the precedents it established were used in the wrong hands.

With the Government facing a close vote at the end of the debate, emotions were unusually high in a packed chamber as Lord Bellwin, the Minister for Local Government defended the proposals to install nominated councillors from the districts and boroughs to run the authorities during the final year of their life and gave no hint that the Government was prepared to offer concessions in response to the strong criticisms of the measure.

The normally sedate atmosphere in which Lords debates are conducted was upset as Labour peers interrupted Lord Bellwin to complain that he was devoting the bulk of his remarks to the reasons for the abolition of the councils and not to the principle of abolishing elections.

Parliament, page 4

Falklands talks not ruled out, says Pym

By Richard Evans

Mr Francis Pym, the former Foreign Secretary, predicted last night that the time could arrive when Britain and Argentina would discuss the sovereignty of the Falkland Islands.

But he insisted that resumption of any form of direct talks or diplomatic relations between the two countries depended on Argentina's first renouncing formally the threat of hostilities.

"That would make a very considerable difference. It would be possible to reestablish representatives in Buenos Aires and gradually start the unthawing process."

Mr Pym, who was giving evidence to the Commons Foreign Affairs Select Committee recalled that in the 1960s and before the Falklands war Britain had been prepared to discuss the sovereignty issue.

The "illegal and universally condemned invasion" of the islands had seriously affected the British Government's attitude. But, referring to sovereignty, he added: "Let's take it step by step until perhaps we can at some stage get back to a position where this can be discussed."

"It is not as though we have never been prepared to discuss this. On the contrary. There was a stage when the British Government was willing and tried to take the matter to international law but the Argentines refused."

"One must not point the accusing finger at Britain. It should be pointed the other way round."

Although Mr Pym stressed any possibility of discussions over the islands' future were a long way off, his guarded comments were in contrast to the view of Mr Thatcher who has repeatedly ruled out any idea of discussing the Falklands' sovereignty with Argentina.

Mr Pym said he believed it was "politically difficult" for the recently elected Argentine government to renounce formally the use of force towards the Falklands.

"It may be over a period of time that President Alfonsín will get into a position when it is possible to make this formal declaration. That is what one must hope for."

Fowler moves on frozen pensions

By Nicholas Timmins

Legislation to give a better pension deal to people who change jobs or are made redundant was announced yesterday by Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services.

The legislation, to be introduced in the autumn, will require any pension rights left in occupational pension schemes when people leave to be updated by 5 per cent a year in line with the rise in prices, whichever is less.

The Bill is also likely to contain measures forcing the 20,000 pension funds to disclose much more information to

their members, and to give those who change jobs the right to transfer accrued pension rights to their new employer's scheme.

Announcing the move, Mr Fowler said he wanted to take action "at the first possible opportunity to correct the present injustice" to early leavers.

He said many people who changed jobs at present had to leave behind pensions which were effectively frozen and lost their value. That was an artificial barrier to job mobility and meant that many people lost, often substantially.

The change would benefit

not only those who left their pensions with an old employer, but also those who transferred them. It was estimated that the legislation would add an extra 1 to 2 per cent to payroll costs.

Mr Fowler said, but it would be left to individual pension funds to decide how the changes to be financed.

It could mean higher contributions from the employer, the employee or both. It could be financed by the high returns some pension funds have been earning - about 7 per cent more than inflation in recent years.

Alternatively, the fraction paid could be changed - from so many sixtieths for each year

of service to so many seventieths, for example. Schemes could integrate their calculations to allow for the state pension, for example by combining the state and occupational benefits would produce a pension of two-thirds of final salary. The age limit of 26 for entitlement to preservation of pension rights is also to be removed so that anyone with five years' service in a preserved will be entitled to a preserved pension. Although the bill is not expected to become law until January 1986, the provisions are likely to take effect from January 1 next year.

Parliament, Page 4

Teachers offered mediation on pay

By Richard Garner and
Michael Durham

Local education authorities backed down yesterday and agreed to offer teachers arbitration in their pay dispute, breaking two-month deadlock in negotiations which has led to the disruption of lessons for thousands of school children.

But the terms of reference for arbitration still have to be decided at a meeting of a Burnham committee, which negotiates teachers' pay. The meeting will be held with in the next two weeks.

Teachers' unions welcomed yesterday's move but announced that their industrial action, which is being stepped up today, will continue until agreement on the terms has been reached.

management leaders, who have come under increasing pressure from individual local education authorities to agree to arbitration, decided to call for the new meeting of the full negotiating committee to discuss acceptable terms of reference.

After a two and a half hour meeting, Mr Philip Merridale, the leader of the management side, said that, if terms could be agreed, arbitration was the only possible way out of the dispute.

He declined to say whether the employers had discussed where the money might come from for settlement above the 4.5 per cent pay offer already made to the teachers or whether the Government was likely to be asked to help foot the bill.

But Mrs Nicole Harrison, leader of the Labour-controlled Association of Metropolitan Authorities, said: "What is happening within the schools is just not doing our pupils any good."

The Government should be urged to give money towards a settlement above 4.5 per cent. "If they don't, it will have to come from local authority budgets, and that is very worrying," she added.

The employers made it clear that their talks with the unions or a new pay structure test the profession, which have been going on separately from this year's pay negotiations, would not be covered as part of the arbitration terms of reference.

Yesterday members of the National Association of Schoolmasters-Union of Women Teachers in Nottinghamshire, Northumberland, Devon and Dorsetshire joined their colleagues in eight other local education authorities in a series of continuing half-day strikes.

The eight others were: Hampshire, Leeds, Cambridgeshire, South Glamorgan, Essex, Staffordshire, North Yorkshire, and Gloucestershire.

Leaders of 75,000 college lecturers will decide later this week whether their pay claim should be submitted to arbitration, but planned industrial action, including a one-day strike on June 23, is to go ahead (David Jobbins writes).

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BL bonanza hopes are dashed by strike

By Clifford War
Motoring Correspondent

The two-week-old Austin Rover strike that has lost the company 10,000 cars, worth more than £50m could prevent the British firm from capitalizing on the threatened shortage of Ford and General Motors cars resulting from a strike at their German motor component plants.

A senior Austin Rover executive said last night: "Until this happened, we were poised to make a real killing with the Americans short of cars during the build-up to the August bonanza."

Vauxhall has announced that lay-offs will begin at its Ellesmere Port and Luton plants on June 18 because of a shortage of key components for the Astra and Cavalier models that it assembles.

Ford said yesterday it was reviewing the prospects for its British factories on a week-to-week basis. There were component shortages but it had been able to keep going by switching production between different models.

However, the biggest worry for Ford and Vauxhall for the first time they will not be able to make good new car shortages in Britain by importing cars from their German and Belgian plants.

Shipments of Ford Granada, Capri and Fiesta Ghias, and Vauxhall Cavaliers, Carlton, and all Opel models, have stopped in the past few days.

Vauxhall imports more than half the cars it sells in Britain. Under pressure from the British Government, Ford, the market leader, has been making efforts to reduce its dependence on foreign cars, but still imports two out of every five it sells here.

The strike by 300 transport drivers at Austin Rover Longbridge has stopped all car production there and at the company's remaining assembly plant at Cowley, near Oxford. More than 16,500 workers are laid-off because the drivers refuse to return to work until the company reinstates Mr Zedekiah Mills, aged 55, the forklift truck driver who was dismissed for hitting a foreman.

British Shipbuilders faced a fresh crisis last night after allegations about the potential disintegration of the industry (Barrie Clement writes).

A corporate plan prepared by the former chairman Sir Robert Atkinson predicted that the business could collapse from a national enterprise employing 60,000 to a minor state-run company with a workforce of only 3,000, and called for an extra £150m to £200m of government aid.

Under the new chairman, Mr Graham Day, the cash has not been forthcoming in the face of the continuing slump in the world market, according to *World in Action*, the Granada television programme broadcast last night.

Print union storeman wins closed shop case

From Our Correspondent, Bedford

A storeman who resigned from a union because he disagreed with its policies was unfairly dismissed, an industrial tribunal ruled yesterday.

In an important test of the Government's closed shop legislation, the Bedford tribunal ruled that Mr Bob Wellstead, aged 35, should not have been dismissed by Folliwips Ltd, of Moulton Park estate, Northampton, when he left the print union, Sogat '82. It said that Mr Wellstead should be reinstated if practicable.

If not, compensation orders will be made against both the company and the union after they report back to the tribunal in the next few weeks.

Folliwips, which carries out printing work on packaging, operates a post-entry closed shop agreement with Sogat, and the National Graphical Association.

MPs condemn effect of EEC on British manufacturing

By Richard Evans

Britain's manufacturing industry has gained little or no benefit from a decade of EEC membership, an all-party Commons select committee said yesterday.

In a damning report published just before the Euro elections, the powerful trade and industry select committee says that the results of entry to the Common Market have been "extremely disappointing".

"It is quite obvious that EEC membership has not provided the benefits to our manufacturing industry which were prophesied when we joined," Mr Kenneth Warren, Conservative MP for Hastings and Rye, and chairman of the committee, said when presenting the report yesterday.

"If membership has not been especially harmful, it has not yet been especially beneficial, either."

A deficit of £8,000m on the trade of manufactured goods with Britain's current and prospective EEC partners last year led to the UK achieving its first-ever peacetime deficit on world trade in such goods. And Britain's manufacturing trade deficit with the EEC has increased at a rate of about £2,000m a year for the past four years, the committee points out.

While imports of goods from the EEC have increased in volume by 300 per cent since

1973, exports have increased by only 66 per cent.

After a three-month investigation into the growing trade imbalance, the Conservative dominated committee says that but for the cushioning effect of North Sea oil, the position would be much worse.

"It is impossible to quantify the degree to which manufacturing industry would have declined in the last few years if the UK had not had North Sea oil to sell."

The committee attributes much of the blame to lack of competitiveness among British industries - especially in the motor-vehicle and textile trades - and to a failure to adapt to new markets.

The MPs also criticized Mr Norman Tebbit, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, for his "complacent and shortsighted" attitude towards Britain's trade difficulties with the Common Market.

"It is imperative for the Government to 'look to' the longer term in deciding to what extent the continued decline in manufacturing should be permitted to continue."

The MPs say that insufficient attention has been given by the Government to ensuring the recovery of manufacturing industry on a scale necessary to replace revenue generated by North Sea Oil.

European elections, page 4

Pit strike blow to BR freight hopes

By Craig Seton

British Rail's hopes for profitability this year have been seriously damaged by the 14-week-old miners' strike which has slashed freight revenue from the movement of coal and coke by £70m.

It was revealed yesterday that since the shutdown of most of Britain's collieries, the railways have been carrying only a tenth of the normal weekly total of 1.5 million tonnes of coal and coke.

After its poor financial result in 1982, when its deficit was £175m British Rail last year was £8m in profit. A spokesman said yesterday: "We were hoping to make a profit this year and we were on a fairly steady course until the miners' strike started. We are losing something like £5m a week and it is going to do a great deal of harm to our balance sheet."

"The longer the strike goes on, it will be an increasingly difficult job trying to achieve break-even point by the end of the year."

He emphasized that the losses were due almost entirely to the shutdown of most collieries rather than sympathy action by railway employees in refusing to move coal stocks.

British Rail is particularly concerned that, because some users have turned to other fuels during the strike, it might be difficult to retrieve the lost business once the strike ends. A spokesman said: "With every week that goes by, it is going to be more unlikely that we shall be in sight of recapturing the revenue we are losing each week."

Carrying coal and coke is by far the largest part of British Rail freight business, which is not subsidized. Last year it was worth just over £280m compared with more than £57m for iron and steel and £153m for all other freight.

The spokesman said that in spite of the losses caused by the miners' strike, there was no intention to increase fares again. They had last gone up in January.



Mr. Felix Aubel (right) announcing his break with the Alliance yesterday, with Mr. John Gummer, Conservative Party chairman. (Photograph: Jonathan Player)

SDP candidate joins Tories

From Our Correspondent, Portsmouth

Mr Felix Aubel, the Social Democratic Party candidate who was the runner up at last month's Cynon Valley by-election, defected to the Conservatives yesterday.

Mr Aubel, aged 23, a lay preacher, said he was disillusioned with the SDP/Liberal alliance. He feared for the country's future if the Labour left returned to power.

He made his announcement in Portsmouth to throw support behind Mr Patrick Rock, Conservative candidate in the Portsmouth South by-election. He said: "Many in the SDP are still Labour at heart and the naive notion of some Liberals is beyond belief."

He denied that his changing views had affected his ability to fight the Welsh by-election with conviction. "My heart was in it as a local candidate who was working for the constituents," he said.

"The Labour Party had been taking the Welsh valleys for granted but the hard left was taking over and I felt that could only do harm."

Mrs Shirley Williams, SDP president, said last night: "I am sorry Felix Aubel has allowed himself to be used by the Tory Party in an attempt to recapture their lost ground in the Portsmouth South by-election."

Mr Michael Hancock, the SDP candidate, said: "I find it strange to say the least that somebody who five weeks ago spent a considerable amount of time and energy condemning the Conservative Party, can switch so easily."

Mrs Sally Thomas, the Labour candidate, said: "I do not find it in any way surprising. The SDP are facing all ways at the same time."

Mr Michael Meacher, Labour spokesman on health, said the defection demonstrated the "shallowness and rootlessness" of the SDP.

General election result: P. 8. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41. 42. 43. 44. 45. 46. 47. 48. 49. 50. 51. 52. 53. 54. 55. 56. 57. 58. 59. 60. 61. 62. 63. 64. 65. 66. 67. 68. 69. 70. 71. 72. 73. 74. 75. 76. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81. 82. 83. 84. 85. 86. 87. 88. 89. 90. 91. 92. 93. 94. 95. 96. 97. 98. 99. 100.

More feel unsafe in cities

By George Hill

People living in inner-city areas are three times more afraid for their personal safety because of crime than those living outside cities, a Home Office research paper said yesterday. Just more than half of the former group felt "very unsafe" compared with 18 per cent in the latter.

Fears of losing property because of crime showed a similar but less marked disparity, reflecting the level of risk in the different areas, says the report. It is based on 11,000 interviews conducted in 1981 for the British Crime Survey.

"Within urban areas fear for personal safety is restricted primarily to women and those over the age of 60," the report says. This is despite the fact that the group most at risk of attack is young men. The report surmises that the latter may be less likely to admit to fear, but points out that an attack is more likely to have serious effects on a victim who is frail.

A large proportion of those who are very fearful for their personal safety stay in to avoid danger.

The report expressed concern that as individuals became more distrustful and withdrawn they might become less willing to get involved in the affairs of others, thus undermining community security.

Outside London, burglary was the fear most often cited, although few householders took special precautions. "If few people think about such security measures, one might wonder how significant their worries are," the report says. Fear of Crime in England and Wales - Home Office Research Study No 78. HMSO, £4.20.

Longer sentences 'cut crime cheaply'

Burglary and theft totalling more than £650m a year could be significantly reduced if the Government spent a fraction of that amount on lengthening prison sentences for property crimes, according to Leicester University lecturer.

Writing in the journal *Public Money*, Mr David Pyle estimates that the cheapest ways to reduce crime are to make prison sentences longer or more likely.

Employing more police officers would help to reduce property crime, but at disproportionate cost. Mr Pyle, a lecturer in social sciences, calculates that a reduction of 1 per cent in the rate of property crime each year would require 3 per cent more officers, costing more than £38m.

Mr Pyle, who analysed crime

How to cut theft by 1 per cent

Increase police officers 3.1
Increase probability of imprisonment 1.8
Increase jail sentences 1.2
Degrade unemployment 2.1

rates in the English counties, argues that the determinants of theft, burglary and robbery include police numbers, the time the police spend on traffic accidents, and the rateable value of houses. There is a clear link, too, with unemployment and the time served by convicted criminals.

Mr Pyle acknowledges that his calculations rely on correlating figures.

Public Money (£46 a year from 1 Buckingham Place, London SW1E 6 HS).

Big Ben nuclear protest

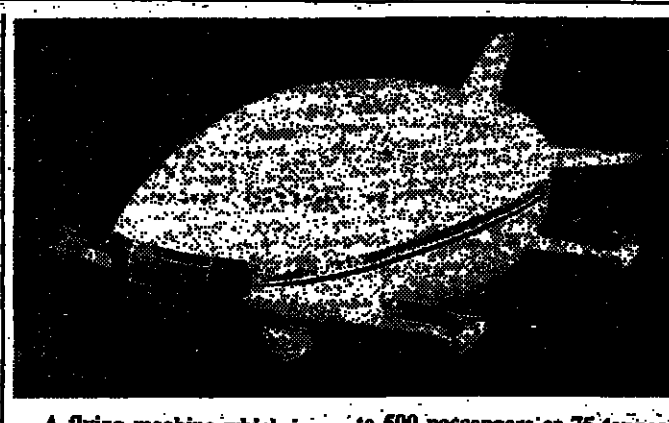
One of the most spectacular publicity stunts of recent years ended yesterday afternoon when two Greenpeace demonstrators came down from the clock face of Big Ben. Eleven hours earlier they had climbed up scaffolding to hang a banner calling for an end to nuclear tests.

Traffic crawled over Westminster Bridge during the rush hour yesterday morning as commuters, tourists, policemen, and passers-by gawped up at the protesters. The two men hung in hammocks on either side of a red banner that hung over the clock's south face, and read: "Time to Stop Nuclear Testing."

The demonstrators had climbed on the scaffolding using ladders from the roof of a double-decker bus, the police pursuit had been hampered by a man who chained himself to scaffolding preventing them from using the lift.

Greenpeace organizers said that the stunt had been conceived three years ago, and practised in disused warehouses in Hamburg, West Germany. The bus was bought for £3,500, painted red, and adapted so that the three-part ladder could be extended through the roof.

The two men were Mr Ron Taylor, aged 30, a British teacher, and Mr Renato Ruf, aged 26, a professional mountaineer from Zurich.



The machine has a helium-filled envelope and four wings each with a rotor blade or lift fan.

The operating costs are said to be a third of a conventional helicopter.

to 500 passengers or 75 tonnes of freight to follow.

The machine has a helium-filled envelope and four wings each with a rotor blade or lift fan.

The operating costs are said to be a third of a conventional helicopter.

Whitehall undecided on ethnic monitor

By Anthony Bevins
Political Correspondent

Whitehall has failed to reach a decision on ethnic monitoring of employees, more than two years after the Home Secretary told the Commons that the Government had to "give a lead".

Lord Whitelaw, then Mr William Whitelaw, told MPs in the wake of the Scarman report, on December 10 1981: "Only if the relevant information is available can we take the necessary steps to remedy racial disadvantages."

Since then, the Commons has passed a race relations *Code of Practice*, which urges employers to monitor the effects of employment policies.

Mr Alan Clark, Parliamentary Under-Secretary at the Department of Employment, said in a written Commons reply on June 6 that his department was "in regular contact with industry seeking to persuade employers to consider and apply the practical guidance given in the *Code of Practice*."

But Whitehall's own Management and Personnel Office is still working on the second of two experimental surveys into monitoring. The first report, on a trial in Leeds, was published in 1982.

Mr McEwan Allen, head of the Commons administration department, has told *The Times* that all high-level, and medium-rank appointments are offered internally before externally. It is considered that such a policy could perpetuate any racial imbalance on the Commons staff.

He also said that an exception was made for the 41 Westminster "badge messengers", who act as doorkeepers and messengers, dealing directly with MPs. "They are recruited from the Armed Forces," he said.

Meanwhile, the Commission for Racial Equality is to make a formal approach to parliamentary authorities on the absence of Commons monitoring.

It was reported in *The Times* yesterday that monitoring did not exist at Westminster and that blacks and Asians accounted for only 0.8 per cent of the workforce in six departments.

Mr Aaron Haynes, head of the Commission's employment division, said yesterday: "If it is true, then we have a legal responsibility, under the 1976 Race Relations Act, to pursue it."

"The *Code of Practice* recommends a course of action. If Parliament itself is not doing anything about it, that undermines the validity of the code itself."

Cardinal Basil Hume has set up an advisory group to help him plan the Roman Catholic Church's future work among black people in his Westminster diocese (a Staff Reporter writes).

The group consists of black people working in race relations or education, some of them on behalf of other churches.

Demolition threat to £8m blocks of flats

Glasgow Council is likely to demolish an £8m housing estate built only 12 years ago, despite an offer from the private sector to buy and refurbish the flats for sale (Our Architecture Correspondent writes).

The fate of the 12 blocks, containing 756 flats at Hutchesontown, in the Gorbals, will be decided today at a meeting of the council's housing care group, a sub-committee of the full housing committee.

The Labour councillors, who have 59 of the council's 66 seats, want the blocks to be pulled down, even though Barratt Housing has offered to pay £1,000 for each flat. It would then seek central Government grants to help towards the cost of repairing damp and other constructional faults.

The cost of demolition has been put at more than £1,500,000. Mr Bill Aitken, the former Conservative Party leader on the council, has called the Labour councillors' attitude "appalling". He said that they would rather have "a hole in the ground" than private sector housing.

Brewery closes after strike

Whitbread yesterday announced the closure of its Luton brewery, six weeks after the 300 workers went on strike after a one-day walk-out over pay. It said the Luton operation would be switched to other plants and staff and management who had remained at work would be found new jobs. Union officials said the news had taken them by surprise.

Breeding hope for rare duck

A batch of eggs from the Wildfowl Trust, Slimbridge, Gloucestershire, is being flown to Hungary tomorrow to give rare white-headed ducks a second lease of life in their homeland where the breed is extinct.

And Dilys, a three-year-old lioness is to be flown from the Longleat Safari Park, Wiltshire, where she was born, to Gambia in Africa to help overcome a breeding crisis caused by a lion shortage.

Bomb alert disrupts exam

More than 100 pupils had to change the venue of their GCE examinations yesterday when a bomb alert closed two Belfast schools. Arrangements were made for them to join colleagues at another school while security forces examined a suspect device. Fifty families were moved. Two men detained by the RUC were being questioned about the incident yesterday.

Egg collectors fined £250

Two unemployed men were fined £250 each and had their car and equipment confiscated yesterday after they admitted possessing 133 eggs of protected wild birds. Mark Ludlow, aged 48, and Adam Rainsley, aged 19, both from Coventry, were caught in a police trap after being seen by a gamekeeper - the honorary sheriff of Dumock, Sutherland, Mr Euan Currie, was told.

Award to victim

The Italian Government awarded £627 compensation to Mr George Sharp, a Liverpool supporter who was stabbed in Rome after the European Cup Final. Mr Sharp was flown home yesterday.

Sale room

Cartoon of mullahs fetches £16,200

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

A cartoon depicting scheming Iranian mullahs sparked an extraordinary bidding battle at Christie's yesterday. It sold for £16,200, against an estimate of only £400-£550.

The bidding also drew attention to a little-known artist. The cartoon is signed "Mak" and dated "Tehran 1977". It is a technical, brilliant drawing, rather in the style of Arthur Rackham. It depicts the mullahs with huge noses, bushy eyebrows and beards, and gnarled fingers - a horrid trio, gloating over a news sheet.

Christie's catalogue thought that Mak was a Frenchman, and did not know his first name. But according to a leading London dealer in Islamic art, the artist was called Paul Mak, a Russian of noble birth who settled in Persia and studied with the court painter.

He studied the tradition of Persian miniature painting in its final days and was patronised by the Shah. Some of his work was in purely Persian style which he combined with brilliant watercolour cartoons, such as the mullahs.

Overseas selling prices: Auctioneers: Christie's, 100, Strand, London WC2R 2LS. Tel: 01-479 9700. Sotheby's, 135, New Bond Street, London W1. Tel: 01-479 9700. Bonhams, 39, Old Broad Street, London EC2M 1JH. Tel: 01-479 9700. D. S. White, 1, The Quadrant, London WC2N 2DL. Tel: 01-479 9700.

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MP fails to gain Star seat

By Rupert Morris

The executive of the British Communist Party appeared last night to have made some modest progress in its efforts to regain control of the People's Press Printing Society, the cooperative that owns the *Morning Star*.

Of the six seats up for election on the society's 15-strong management committee, one was won by Mr George Bolton, vice-president of the Scottish miners. He defeated Mr Ernest Roberts, the left-wing Labour MP for Hackney.

North and Stoke Newington, who was backed by the management committee.

At least one other seat appeared to have been won by an executive candidate. As a result of a severe ideological split within the party, the management committee's six recommendations had been opposed by six candidates favoured by the party executive, who wants the paper's editor and deputy editor replaced.

Vehicle exhausts blamed for damage to forests

By John Young, Environment Correspondent

High concentration of ozone, produced by the emission of nitrogen oxides from vehicle exhausts, were now widely held to be a significant cause of Europe's dying forest. The Commons select committee on the environment was told yesterday.

In evidence to the committee, the Department of the Environment said that concentrations of ozone measured in the Black Forest, West Germany, comparable to those in the United

States, where it was known to cause forest injury.

However, it should be emphasized that there was little direct experimental evidence.

Peak levels of ozone in recent hot summers had been similar in Britain to those in the rest of Europe, but annual mean concentrations were lower. It was thus important to confirm recent reports of damage to British trees similar to that in West Germany.

The committee, which is inquiring into "acid rain", was

told that emissions of sulphur dioxide in Europe had doubled since 1950. But in the same period United Kingdom emissions had fallen by 12 per cent, and its contribution to total European pollution had dropped from 25 to 11 per cent.

Studies by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development had shown that some of the sulphur deposited on Europe's western seaboard might have been transported across the Atlantic. About a quarter of the deposition in

Norway was thought to originate from the United States and Canada.

Sulphur "exports" from Britain were exceeded by six other countries. Italy, East Germany and West Germany, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia.

Dr M. W. Holdgate, the department's chief scientist, said the important thing was not the amount of deposition of sulphur dioxide and nitrogen oxide but their interaction with other elements.

Scheme to give suspects at police station benefit of 24-hour legal advice

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

All suspects in police stations would have access to free legal advice as a statutory right under draft proposals for a duty solicitor scheme published by the Law Society yesterday.

The proposals for round-the-clock legal advice by solicitors in police stations would take effect when the Police and Criminal Bill becomes law.

The Bill provides the Law Society with powers to set up such a scheme for free legal advice in all cases except "serious arrestable offences" where police can deny access to a solicitor for up to 36 hours.

The society is launching experimental schemes in three pilot areas to test the extent of demand: the West Midlands (Birmingham); Northamptonshire (Kettering and Wellingborough); and a part of the Metropolitan area, not yet decided.

The duty solicitor scheme for

police stations will be an extension of the duty solicitor scheme now being set up in magistrates' courts under the Legal Aid Act 1982 and provided in 250 out of 600 courts.

About 1.6 million people are arrested each year. The Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure estimated that about 20 per cent were likely to want legal advice, and in a limited survey it estimated that of those arrested about 8 per cent received legal advice.

Launching the proposals, which have gone out to local law societies for comment, Mr Andrew Lockley and Mr Simon Hillyard, Law Society officials involved in the scheme, said they welcomed a statutory right to free legal advice for suspects.

Under the Bill as it stands, it is not clear whether the free legal advice, which means the suspect is not means-tested for

payment of contributions, would also apply to someone voluntarily at the police station, helping with inquiries, or what the position is after charge.

The Law Society is to press for clarification of the Bill in its committee stage in the Lords to ensure that free legal advice will be provided in both situations.

The Government has set aside £6m to cover the cost of the scheme, which the Law Society hopes to see in operation by the middle of next year.

To ensure that there will be solicitors of the right experience for the unusual hours that the scheme will necessitate, the Law Society is pressing for enhanced pay for duty solicitors, which outside normal working hours means a 50 per cent increase on the criminal legal aid rates. In addition, there would be a standby rate of pay of £78 for the 24 hours.

Doctor accuses GMC of too much secrecy

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

The General Medical Council has been accused of unnecessary secrecy and of providing too little information to the public, to its own members and to doctors brought before it on disciplinary charges.

Dr Anne Gruneberg, a member of the council as well as its professional conduct committee, says that "justice is most definitely not being seen to be done".

In an article in *The Lancet*, she argues that the disciplinary hearings work fairly, and she has seen no case where there has been a miscarriage of justice. But too little information is often presented inappropriately to those with a right to know, she says.

Dr Gruneberg argues that lack of information can leave claimants, the doctor involved and the public perplexed at the outcome.

It has, she says, "given rise to a widespread, though false,

impression that the GMC is unreasonably harsh with a doctor who has committed adultery with a consenting adult because the committee disapproves of his private life."

The General Medical Council announced last week that it would review the standards by which it judges doctors' conduct, particularly in relation to neglect or disregard of professional responsibilities to patients.

Family doctors are to accuse the Government of "capitulating" to the pharmaceutical industry, by abandoning moves to make it easier for them to substitute cheaper generic drugs for brand-name products on prescriptions.

A motion to be debated next week at the annual conference in London of local medical committees, says that the Government's failure to act is "imposing an enormous financial burden on the NHS".

Drug trials guide for students

By Thomson Practice Science Correspondent

Medical students are likely to continue to volunteer to take part tests of new drugs, despite an imminent recommendation from the National Union of Students, against participation in the trials, and growing concern about their safety.

The Royal College of Physicians has set up a group of experts which will meet next month to review guidelines on the testing of medical drugs on volunteers.

Last month an art student in Dublin had a heart attack and died 15 minutes after being injected with a drug. A medical student at Cardiff is seriously ill after participating in another drug trial.

Guard freed on gang charges

A security Express guard who claims he was framed by Scotland Yard has been cleared of setting up a series of robberies.

Mr Alan Roostan, aged 30, of Welling, Kent, walked free from the Central Criminal Court when the prosecution offered no further evidence after a jury failed to agree on charges of robbery and attempted robbery.

Record lead for TV-am

The commercial breakfast station TV-am reached a record lead over the BBC in the latest viewing figures published yesterday. According to the Broadcasters' Audience Research Board, TV-am reached 2.1 million viewers for the average peak-quarter hour in the week ending June 3, against the BBC's 1.4 million. The commercial station's lead of 0.7 million viewers during the week compared with the BBC's five million.

GLC campaigns for better diet

Britain is the most backward of rich nations in reforming farming, according to a policy document published yesterday by the Greater London Council, which "wants to establish a London Food Commission to campaign for a healthier diet and better working conditions in the catering industry."

Lawyer is jailed for fraud

A solicitor who admitted obtaining more than £200,000 by fraud from banks to help finance property developers was jailed for 18 months by the High Court in Edinburgh yesterday.

James Jenkins, aged 34, of East Lothian, who last year tried to buy control of the Scottish Premier League club, Hibernian, admitted seven charges of fraud by pretending to the Clydesdale Bank that clients required bridging loans.

He gave fictitious names and obtained £116,000 from the Clydesdale Bank between January and April 1983. He also admitted obtaining a further £109,000 from the Trustee Savings Bank between June 24 and 29 last year, using the same fraudulent system.

Mr Robert Henderson, QC for Jenkins, said the property developers had a cash flow difficulty and Jenkins had agreed to provide temporary funds by way of bridging loans. "What possessed him to do this neither his solicitor nor myself can ascertain. Perhaps the true position is that he himself does not know why he did it."

Court told of sex slave bankruptcy

A college lecturer heard her former lover tell London bankruptcy court yesterday that he had been ruined by the "sex slave" label action she won against him last year.

The action was the result of letters he wrote to six colleagues accusing Miss Eaton of blackmailing him into becoming her sex slave. At the time they were both lecturers at Avery Hill College, Epsom, south London. Miss Eaton won £12,000 and costs.

Mr Terence Horsley, aged 45, an art lecturer, said: "I have lost everything. He earns £14,000 a year."

But Miss Eaton accused him through her barrister of working hand in glove with his former ex-wife to make sure she did not get any of his money.

She alleged that he had put his only asset, his house, into the joint names of himself and his former wife.

Mr Horsley rejected the allegations. He disclosed total debts of £32,425 and a deficiency of £24,875. He said Miss Eaton was his only creditor.

The public examination was concluded.

TV fees at heart of Equity election

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

The battle for control of the actor's union, Equity, has begun, with the outcome of the multi-million pound dispute over commercials on TV-am and Channel 4 at its heart.

There are 200 candidates for the 66 vacancies on Equity's council.

Miss Frances de la Tour, better known to television viewers as the shrinking violet of *Rising Damp*, and to West End theatre lovers as a recent Joan of Arc in *St Joan*, is standing on a hard left ticket of "no collaboration with the Tory state".

The actor Nigel Davenport, a centre figure in the union's politics in recent years, claims

that Equity's present leadership has lost members money, and Henry McGee, sidekick of a battery of comedians from Charlie Drake to Benny Hill, claims that the Channel 4 dispute has cost actors millions - "and we'll never get it back".

The far left sentiments of Miss de la Tour, Miss Redgrave and their friends may attract most of Equity's public attention, but the extremists wield little, if any, power within the union.

At present, the majority on the Equity council is in the hands of one group, Centre Forward, which is studiously apolitical, though closely identified by its critics with the

social democrats. CF holds a majority of one on the council over its chief rival, Act for Equity, which claims to be equally apolitical, and represents the old guard of the union, in which Nigel Davenport and Marlene Goring have been leading figures.

The Channel 4 dispute has raised a chasm of difference between the two groups which, in normal times, would scarcely seem divisible.

Under the CF leadership, Equity has refused to sign a deal with advertisers that would result in the rates of pay for the two channels being less than those on ITV 1.



Fatherly love: Mr James Mulgrew and his daughter Audrey-Ann yesterday. (Photograph: John Manning).

Audrey-Ann makes her father's day

Audrey-Ann Mulgrew was sure her father, Mr James Mulgrew, should be named The Greeting Card and Calendar Association's Dad of the Year.

To Audrey-Ann his virtues were obvious. "My dad is great fun, cheerful and never cross. He has never had a holiday, but is still happy. To me my dad is the dad of a lifetime."

The judges decided that her card, showing her father's jacket, shirt and tie with arms outstretched, best signified the meaning of Father's Day.

Audrey, aged nine, from Londonderry, Northern Ire-

land, was presented in London yesterday with a Cabbage Patch doll as first prize for her card and tribute. Mr Mulgrew won a new Ford Fiesta.

Mr Mulgrew, aged 42, a production manager, said: "I am sure that there are better dads in Britain, but I reckon I am the luckiest."

Fifteen finalists were selected from the 50,000 entrants. The entry from Lee Rebbeck, aged 12, from Coventry, read: "He doesn't ask a lot from life, only that we're happy. He's always smiling, always fun and never ever snappy."

That of Rebecca Morris, aged 13, from Bath, read: "My dad is the best because he accepts me for what I am and not for what I could be."

Katrina Stirton, aged 12, from Dundee, was effusive: "He's a hard-working guy, who loves his kid. He hardly ever blows his lid. It's hard to think of a nicer man."

Carol Nettlefold, aged 13, from Birmingham, was poignant: "My dad is special to me because for the past nine years he has been a mother and father to me and my brother and two sisters."

Universities to link seminar by satellite

Edinburgh University will take part in a world first, in October a satellite link up with a university in Canada for a live seminar on the effects of new technology on society.

The project - to cost \$60,000 (£42,800) - is being funded by the North American company Northern Telecom, which has interests in Britain. Successful, satellite link-ups for similar events are planned.

Guests from the Scottish university and the University of Carleton, in Ottawa, will take part in the two-hour session, on October 26 or 27.

Mr Roy Cottier, senior vice-president of corporate relations for Northern Telecom, said: "The subject is one of the most urgent and most compelling facing society."

Mr Cottier told a press conference in Edinburgh that the sociological impact of new technology would affect every aspect of life and the way universities and schools operated.

Northern Telecom has an annual turnover in Britain of more than £15m. But it sees that market expanding because of the Government's intention - to liberalize British Telecom.

The principal of Edinburgh University, Dr John Burnett, said: "Knowledge, its application and its consequences are fundamental to the work of this university, which is both a major centre of technological innovation and has a long-standing tradition of inquiry into the impact of technology."

Experiment in teaching degrees by contract

By Bill Johnstone Technology Correspondent

Engineering and science graduates may be trained more cheaply than by traditional methods and supplied under fixed contract to industry and to the Government if an experiment at Cranfield Institute of Technology proves successful.

The institute has been given the contract in preference to other universities and colleges to educate 250 engineers to graduate level and a further 50 to postgraduate level.

The concept of education under contract is supported by the institute and by Salford University, two establishments at the forefront of engineering and science education.

Opponents believe that to encourage universities to openly compete against each other would automatically mean a drop in standards, as the institutes would cut corners to obtain contracts.

However conventional methods are not producing enough high technology engineers for Britain's needs and the Government is seriously concerned that Britain will not be able to compete in industrial markets without more. Industry and education ministers met last week as did the National Economic Development Council to discuss the matter.

Japan heads the education league by producing about 80,000 professional engineers a year.

Crisis solved, page 21

Support for London guide

By Ross Davies

Mr Michael Montague, chairman of the English Tourist Board, joined the controversy yesterday, over the Ordnance Survey's publication of a new pocket street guide to London in cooperation with a private publisher.

ABC London Street Atlas has been criticized by members of

the Map Publishers Fair Trading Committee as having been unfairly competitive.

Mr Montague said the guide was "a splendid atlas" and said that there was no element of hidden subsidy in the venture.

ABC London Street Atlas, (Newnes Books Ordnance Survey, £1.95).



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Vanessa Redgrave: "Thatcher's Bonapartist dictatorship uses a parliamentary majority, the judiciary, the police and the Army to destroy our jobs and social services."

Nigel Davenport: "What do Act for Equity candidates stand for? Moderation, negotiation, non-confrontation, referendum. The council of the last two years... has prevailed."

Frances de la Tour: "As a council member for last year I have been made even more aware of... a leadership... who have no policies to defend us against the State attacks."

Fenella Fielding: "I support Centre Forward's policies because, being allied to no political party ideology, it has the freedom to press for the betterment of conditions."

Leonard Rossiter: "As in the past, my aim is to work for the benefit of members in relation to their profession. Political affiliations should not affect councillors' attitudes."

Kika Markham: "The first four months of 1984 saw the transformation of Britain into a Bonapartist police state. Defend the GLC. The miners, fight is our fight!"

Noisy exchanges on GLC elections Bill

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The Bill which suspends elections to the Greater London Council and the metropolitan county councils in readiness for the abolition of the councils was given an unusually noisy hearing when it was discussed on second reading in the House of Lords.

As Lord Bellwin, Minister for Local Government, opened the debate he was interrupted by Lady Birk, from the Opposition front bench, who said peers were not discussing the Bill to abolish the GLC and asked Lord Bellwin if he would be so kind as to address his remarks to the measure under discussion, the Local Government (Interim Provisions) Bill.

As Labour peers cheered, Lord Bellwin replied that the Government's case was so overpowering that he could well understand the concern expressed by the noise coming from the other side of the House. It was slightly reminiscent of the Commons, he added.

As Lord Kaldor (Lab) rose to intervene, Lord Bellwin said it would be in accordance with the traditions of the House of Lords that the Opposition make their case before the Government made theirs. He knew that feelings ran strongly on both sides but this legislation should be treated in the same way as other measures were treated.

Before the debate began, Lady Desborough (Con) had presented a petition from the GLC praying that peers did not proceed with the proposal to cancel the 1985 elections.

Lord Bellwin, moving the second reading of the Bill, which has passed the Commons, said that despite all the noise, campaigns, publicity and propaganda by the seven authorities, they did not in fact run Britain's major cities. The GLC may profess to be "working for London", but it did not run London.

Nearly all local services essential to everyday life were not provided by the GLC. He included personal social services, hospitals, refuse collection, water, street cleaning and libraries. The borough councils mainly provided such services. They were closer to the people. Boroughs also had most of the housing responsibilities.

Once transport had been removed the GLC would be responsible for less than 16 per cent of total spending on these services in London. Inevitably, therefore, the GLC found itself interfering with the functions of the boroughs and inventing unnecessary things to do.

It was thrashing around creating an enormous bureaucracy, speaking out on foreign policy, nuclear policy, police matters, things which had nothing to do with it. Much the same was true of the metropolitan county councils.

There were many worthy people doing worthy things on these councils. But these authorities had brought discredit on themselves. There was excessive and irresponsible spending on anti-abortion and other campaigns.

In three years, when prices would have risen by less than 20 per cent, the GLC's spending had doubled from £463m to £966m. While the average rate in England had been less than 30 per cent, the GLC's rate had risen by a staggering 102 per cent.

The claim that we are acting out of political malice (he said) is hardly worthy of rebuttal.

Many London boroughs and metropolitan districts had been pressing for the abolition of these upper tier authorities for years. Mr Kenneth Livingstone, the GLC leader, had once said two tiers of local government were not necessary, and that the "whole appalling show" should be based.

That was exactly what the Government proposed. It was giving responsibility for the remaining functions of these councils to the boroughs and districts. Why the cries of anguish and the pretended outrage?

Points which it was said proved that the proposal did not command support no doubt reflected partly the huge, expensive public relations, publicity campaigns full of distortion and gimmickry.

But despite all this misinformation there was growing evidence that thoughtful people were beginning to see what an opportunity for strengthening local government abolition would provide.

It was inevitable that opposition would be taken up by those groups already getting patronage by courtesy of the ratepayers. But despite all that, the services would suffer. But the boroughs and districts would receive additional rate support grant to help fund the services they would be asked to provide. They would decide on the priorities. Democratically elected councillors would make these decisions, not Whitehall.

Much of the propaganda put out by the GLC had focused on the future of the voluntary organizations and scare stories had been spread that these bodies were coming to a sticky end. But the Government was powerfully committed to the work of voluntary bodies and its record was there for all to see.

The elimination of a whole tier of government would lead to savings. The new unitary authorities would be more economic because they would be closer to, more responsive and more accountable to those they would serve.

I want strongly to refute the claims (he said) that the Bill is in any way unconstitutional. We shall not implement the provisions concerning the suspension of elections until the principle of abolition itself has been debated and approved in the Commons. Should the main abolition Bill subsequently fail to pass into law, this Bill will restore the status quo.

The Bill was essential if abolition was to be achieved by April 1, 1986. The provisions cancelling the elections could not wait for the main Bill.

There had been a lavish propaganda campaign suggesting that cancelling elections in peace

time was unprecedented, but that was not so. It had been done in the 1963 and 1972 Local Government Acts.

Consideration had been given to the 11 month period after May 1985 in the choice between extending the term of office of serving councillors and drawing members from the lower tier. While serving councillors had no mandate for that time, bringing in councillors from the lower tier would give the boroughs and districts the opportunity to prepare for their new responsibilities.

Lord Hoon (L) said that alleged irresponsibility by the GLC was no justification for irresponsibility by the Government, when he moved an amendment. "That this House regards this Bill as a dangerous precedent in that it seeks to give to non-elected bodies the powers of properly constituted councils, notes that it is not in the Conservative Party's election manifesto, and regrets its introduction before Parliament has decided whether or not to abolish these councils."

The "proposition" which Lord Bellwin had detailed as coming from the GLC, he said, might be a reason for the over-reaction of the Government, but it could not be a justification for it. It was not a leading article in *The Times* today, suggested, extend the lives of the councillors for one year? Neither would it be in the due course of the Bill.

If reorganization of local government were scheduled for 1987 or 1988 instead of 1986 she did not think they would be spending time on makeshift arrangements like this.

It was the Government's obsession with evicting certain councillors at the earliest opportunity that was the root cause of the session led them to choose 1986 as the date from which abolition must operate, and that then led them to a concoction of makeshift unworkable arrangements and to consequence which had rightly and widely been described as unconstitutional.

In London political control would pass from Labour to Conservative by order of the Secretary of State at midnight on May 6 1985, without a vote being taken on this Bill.

Only the most compelling grounds could justify the cancellation of democratic elections. When ministers undermined democracy for their own political convenience they were acting with fire.

The Bishop of Rochester (Rt Rev David Say) said leaders of the Church of England, Roman Catholic and the free churches in London were united in their opposition to the removal of a body able to take an overview of Greater London. They believed that the disadvantaged groups and areas of London would be those most adversely affected.

Borough councils on their own would be unable, even if they were willing, to shoulder the important community responsibilities currently carried out by the GLC. The experience of the boroughs was that the removal of a body able to take an overview of Greater London would be those most adversely affected.

It is not a wrecking or delaying amendment (he said) it is an amendment calculated to make the Cabinet think again and save it, in a way, from itself.

If the House of Lords did that it would be showing that it still had power to influence the course of the executive; if the House failed to exercise that influence on such a Bill, it was hard to see any justification for its continued existence.

The Bill was constitutionally unacceptable and lay the Government open to the charges of the most blatant political chicanery in recent times.

It was an affront to Parliament to

Hoon: Bill has grave and wide implications

Inquiries such as a Bill before Parliament had actually decided whether or not to abolish these councils. Making such an assumption was the most enormous assumption to make in a democracy.

Lady Birk (Lab) for the Opposition, said the Bill was bad because it eroded still further the system of local government in the cities and because it proposed only administrative confusion for some of the country's hard-pressed areas. It was dangerous because it represented a negation of the democratic process and jeopardized the standing of Parliament. Taking away people's democratic rights by disbanding the councils, then could only diminish respect for Parliament.

Why not hold elections for the existing authorities in 1985, as suggested by the *Times* and a leading article in *The Times* today, suggested, extend the lives of the councillors for one year? Neither would it be in the due course of the Bill.

If reorganization of local government were scheduled for 1987 or 1988 instead of 1986 she did not think they would be spending time on makeshift arrangements like this.

It was the Government's obsession with evicting certain councillors at the earliest opportunity that was the root cause of the session led them to choose 1986 as the date from which abolition must operate, and that then led them to a concoction of makeshift unworkable arrangements and to consequence which had rightly and widely been described as unconstitutional.

In London political control would pass from Labour to Conservative by order of the Secretary of State at midnight on May 6 1985, without a vote being taken on this Bill.

Only the most compelling grounds could justify the cancellation of democratic elections. When ministers undermined democracy for their own political convenience they were acting with fire.

The Bishop of Rochester (Rt Rev David Say) said leaders of the Church of England, Roman Catholic and the free churches in London were united in their opposition to the removal of a body able to take an overview of Greater London. They believed that the disadvantaged groups and areas of London would be those most adversely affected.

Borough councils on their own would be unable, even if they were willing, to shoulder the important community responsibilities currently carried out by the GLC. The experience of the boroughs was that the removal of a body able to take an overview of Greater London would be those most adversely affected.

It is not a wrecking or delaying amendment (he said) it is an amendment calculated to make the Cabinet think again and save it, in a way, from itself.

If the House of Lords did that it would be showing that it still had power to influence the course of the executive; if the House failed to exercise that influence on such a Bill, it was hard to see any justification for its continued existence.

The Bill was constitutionally unacceptable and lay the Government open to the charges of the most blatant political chicanery in recent times.

It was an affront to Parliament to

Countering an adverse image

ULSTER

A vigorous public relations programme by the Industrial Development Board to counter the adverse image of Northern Ireland was to be carried out, Mr Adam Butler, Minister of State for Northern Ireland, said in the Commons, when moving the draft Appropriation (No 2) (Northern Ireland) Order which would allow the IDB to help house, industry, employment, agriculture and other services in the province.

He said the public relations campaign would include work behind-the-scenes manipulating to isolate the miners' union, said the former Labour Minister.

Mr Butler began the exchanges by giving coal stocks for the end of March, which he said were the most recently published figures. These showed pithead stocks at 21.7 million tonnes and stocks at the power stations at 23 million tonnes.

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Coal stocks sufficient to last into next year

COAL DISPUTE

Coal stocks at power stations, which stood at 23 million tonnes at the end of March, are being reduced by one million tonnes every three to four weeks, Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, informed the Commons during exchanges on the dispute.

Mr Walker (Barnsley, Central, Lab) questioned how the House could know Mr Walker was telling the truth. Mr Walker had been a partner with the Prime Minister in behind-the-scenes manipulating to isolate the miners' union, said the former Labour Minister.

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After Mr Harry Cohen (Levon, Lab) had been told that Mr Ian MacGregor was appointed chairman of the NCB for three years from September 1 1983, Mr Cohen asked to be told the full cost of Mr MacGregor's chairmanship had been met by the Government.

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Better pension rights for those who change jobs

SUPERANNUATION

The Government is to introduce legislation to protect against inflation pension funds of members of occupational pension funds who retire early or change jobs, Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, announced in a Commons statement. His proposal was to ensure that no artificial barriers were added to job mobility.

Mr Fowler said: At present just under 12 million people - about half the national work force - are building up occupational pension rights. That pension provision is of vital importance in retirement and yet in many cases people who change their jobs lose pension rights as a result. In the words of the occupational pensions board "it remains a fact that at the moment many early leavers lose and are often left with no pension rights at all."

The Government believes that his position should be reformed and that those who leave their employment before pension age are as much entitled to the complete package of rewards for their years of service as those who stay. It was for that reason that I convened a special conference on this problem last September and at the end of last year issued a consultative document on the question. The responses to that document showed a wide support for change and certainly no arguments against.

Accordingly, the Government has decided to bring forward legislation at the first possible opportunity to correct the present injustice.

At present many people who change their jobs leave behind a pension which is basically frozen in cash terms and therefore loses value up to the age of retirement. This provides the most fundamental complaint about the present arrangements.

I shall, therefore, introduce legislation which requires occupational pension schemes to revolve deferred benefits for future early leavers at 5 per cent a year compound or in line with the rise in prices, whichever is

less, over the whole period from leaving to pension age. This will have a beneficial effect not only for the person who leaves his pension with his old employer but also for the person who transfers it. The transfer value of those rights will be increased by this change. The House will know that I am currently consulting on proposals to give every early leaver a legal right to transfer.

In money purchase and average salary schemes we shall be requiring comparable treatment between leavers and stayers. We shall also be removing the age limit of 26 for entitlement to preservation so that anyone with five years' service in a scheme will be entitled to a preserved pension.

Although it is not practicable to legislate for improvements for those who have already left, I want these changes to come into effect as soon as possible. It is with this in mind that I am proposing legislation which will override scheme rules so that the service which is to count for improvements should start to build up as soon as possible.

However, I am willing to explore any alternative to overriding legislation which the occupational pensions schemes joint working group might suggest provided that such proposals are effective and can be implemented quickly.

These proposals are an important part of our plans to improve the position of members of occupational pension schemes. We have already introduced legislation to end banking. The improvements I have just announced will provide a fair deal for all members of schemes and ensure no artificial barriers are created to job mobility.

But more action is still needed. I am at present considering the comments I have received on the consultative document on disclosure of information and I will announce my conclusions shortly. The consultative document on transfer rights was published last month and my inquiry into provision for retirement has been considering the arguments for personal pensions.

These steps represent a substantial programme of reform. It is

central to that programme that action should be taken to improve the position of early leavers. Mr Michael Meecher, chief opposition spokesman on health and social services, said that the ending of the present discriminatory rules for people who change jobs. The scheme would still cheat early leavers of their rights.

The best solution would be to require from pensioners to be fully funded, even when they are not working, that would force some indexation of basic rates. That would not be so burdensome to the corporate sector with many pension schemes run on a funded basis.

Young people had been cheated of their basic rights by the tardiness of Government action since the board had reported in 1981.

Mr Fowler: The Labour Government did nothing for early leavers except to set up a committee to look at the situation. We are implementing proposals of the Occupational Pensions Board, which, without exception, we can now plan ahead in a situation of low inflation.

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Parliament today

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European elections

● Greek campaign

● Ulster nationalism

● English rivalry

Fate of Athens government could hang on vote

From Mario Modiano Athens

Constitution Square, the elegant centre of Athens, has surrendered to the tender mercies of the Greek political parties for the ritual campaign rallies to impress the undecided voter in next Sunday's European elections.

There is hardly anything European about the campaign here. The dominant issue is whether Mr Andreas Papandrou and his Pasok socialists, after 32 months in power, are still popular, or if as their conservative rivals of the New Democracy party maintain, they have disappointed and alienated their followers.

The two big parties are encouraging polarization in the hope of neutralizing competition from the smaller parties which are favoured by the electoral system. So they have gone at each other's throat with a vengeance.

Fanaticism and passion which seemed banished from Greece after the return of democracy in 1974, flared again, often degenerating into personal invective and even violence.

A Socialist debate on Sunday would give President Karamanlis constitutional grounds to proclaim early general elections (not due until



President Karamanlis: General election chance

October 1985) by invoking a manifest disparity between the will of the electorate and the composition of the national parliament, elected in 1981.

There is no doubt that Pasok has suffered heavy wear and tear in office. Its achievements are visible short of its promises, there have been traumatic policy reversals, and a display of overall incompetence in running the country, especially the economy. But a débâcle seems unlikely.

In the last Euro elections, which were held simultaneously with the general elections of 1981, Pasok scored 40 per cent of the total vote in the first against 28 per cent in the

second, while New Democracy polled 31.5 and 36 per cent respectively. However neither figure affords an accurate comparison as this is a European election fought on national issues.

Nevertheless, Pasok is nervous. Its campaign has been at best unimaginative, at worst defeatist. Its main line of defence seems to be: "Our kind of socialism cannot be built overnight. Perhaps we are not as good as you had hoped. But do not forget that the others are worse. If they return to power, you are in trouble."

The threat is intended to shoo back into the fold Pasok radicals who, frustrated by its failure to make a clean break with the West as promised, are drifting towards the communists.

In a parallel effort to placate centre voters who are equally frightened of the Government's advanced Marxist rhetoric and its failure to resolve difficulties, Mr George Mavros, the veteran centre leader, was nominated to lead Pasok's list of European candidates.

The New Democracy's campaign exudes optimism, yet the party has not been free of trouble. For months it has been in the throes of a leadership struggle that was papered over to show unity during the current battle.

Londoners urged to back GLC

Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour Party leader, yesterday urged Londoners to use the European elections on Thursday to show where they stood on Conservative plans to abolish the Greater London Council.

"I am asking them to use the ballot box to defend the right to vote", he told a press conference in County Hall, flanked by Mr Ken Livingstone, leader of the council, and eight Labour candidates standing in London for Strasbourg seats. "Every one in London can do that best by voting Labour on June 14", Mr Kinnock said.

The Labour leader said that that was the only message that the Government would hear and would be likely to heed. "This capital of democracy must see that the message is loud and strong and clear".

Mr Kinnock said that public opinion in London was in favour of the retention of the Council. By 64 to 17 per cent Londoners wanted the Council to continue to exist and by 48 to 34 per cent they would vote Labour if there were a general election tomorrow.

"The Government's plan to abolish the GLC and to prevent the democratic elections which should have taken place next May has obviously offended deeply against democratic values", he added.



Lord Hailsham: "Kinnock is not a serious figure" (Photograph: Jonathan Player)

Hailsham attack on 'trivial' Kinnock

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone yesterday attacked Labour members record at Strasbourg and described Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour Party leader, as "utterly trivial".

The Lord Chancellor told the Conservative press conference that Labour MEPs had always put devotion to socialism above British interests and devotion to the Labour Party above loyalty to the Community.

"The truth is that the Labour Party has never really modified its anti-Community prejudices. Backward-looking and Little Englanders to the last man and woman among them they have used their membership of the European Parliament to play party politics. Whatever their value in this country, in that Parliament their influence is detrimental to British interests."

Lord Hailsham said that Conservative MEPs were loyal to the Community, but would defend British interests within the Community.

"I therefore put forward the Conservative Party as the only party whose attitude to Europe adds up to anything like sense. The Labour Party, if its utterances are to be believed, still hankers after leaving the Community altogether. The Liberal Party would sell British interests down the river in the

interests of European federation."

Lord Hailsham then followed the line of other senior Conservatives in making a personal attack on Mr Kinnock. Criticism of his style has increasingly become a feature of the Conservative campaign. It is even being said by Conservative sources that they have evidence that an internal Labour report has shown that Labour voters are upset by Mr Kinnock's showbusiness style.

Lord Hailsham when asked yesterday to comment on Mr Kinnock's response to the London summit, said: "Mr Kinnock is not a serious figure. As far as I am concerned he is an utterly trivial man."

SNP's scorn for rivals

The Scottish National Party yesterday claimed that official figures showed its only Euro MP, Mrs Winifred Ewing, to be the hardest working European representative in Scotland, and branded Scotland's Labour and Tory European MPs as the "insignificant seven".

Mr George Leslie, the SNP vice-chairman said that opinion polls showed Mrs Ewing, who is defending her Highlands and Islands seat, was nine times better known than the others.

Labour turns anger on Thatcher record

By Our Political Staff

Labour leaders demonstrated yesterday that in the last three days of the European Parliament election campaign they intend to concentrate their fire on Mrs Margaret Thatcher and the Government for their record on national issues.

"Mr Neil Kinnock, the leader, Mr Roy Hattersley, deputy leader, and Mr Denis Healey, the shadow Foreign Secretary, largely ignored the tedious issues of the European campaign at their press conference in London, and each launched a tirade against Mrs Thatcher and President Reagan, for causing the failure of the Western economic summit."

That naturally led to a denunciation of Mrs Thatcher's economic policy in the United Kingdom and in Europe.

Candidates, MPs and party workers engaged in the Euro campaign have been asked to intensify their attacks on the Government on national issues.

A private poll conducted by the party showed that most voters are concerned about those matters, rather than the remote and complicated issues involving a largely powerless European Parliament.

By stirring up local issues, the

party reckons it will be able to bring out the reluctant Labour voters on Thursday.

They are asked to press on with attacks on the Government for failing to halt the rising tide of unemployment and its cuts in the National Health Service.

Mr Kinnock managed a direct reference to the European issues after he had criticized the economic summit. He said that Labour, in the final days, would emphasize its strategy, drawn up jointly with other European socialists, for economic growth, in place of the present waste and inefficiency which came from the unemployment of labour, and the under-employment of capital.

Mr Hattersley said the economic summit should have been code-named "Creep". It had achieved nothing except to enable Mrs Thatcher to spend £2.5m of British taxpayers' money on an event that might have been organized specially to help President Reagan's reelection campaign.

Mr Healey said the wasted summit might turn out to have been the last chance Western leaders had of avoiding a financial catastrophe.

Anxious days for Ulster's main nationalist parties

From Richard Ford, Belfast

For the two main parties struggling for the hearts and minds of the nationalist people of Northern Ireland these are anxious days as the European election nears. Any slippage of the votes they received a year ago will be seized by opponents as evidence either of the further decline of the Social Democratic and Labour Party (SDLP) or that Provisional Sinn Féin's bubble has burst.

Anxiety is highest in the SDLP, which fears that more erosion of its support could have catastrophic, if not fatal, consequences for its very existence and be an omen for next year's local government elections.

Its candidate Mr John Hume, the MP at Westminster for Foyle, has a superb record in Europe.

He is, well known, internationally and persuaded the republic's political leaders to set up the New Ireland Forum only to see divisions on interpreting its findings develop.



Mr John Hume: Day of anxiety

The forum rates only two mentions in the party's manifesto and none in the leaflet handed to voters on the streets. Mr Hume is fighting on European issues.

Provisional Sinn Féin (PSF) is campaigning across the province as the only party committed to "ending partition".

Party workers in the SDLP show an despair at the emphasis being placed on Europe. Privately the party admits that it wishes more members were on the ground helping Mr Hume, particularly as his rival, Mr Danny Morrison, has an army of unemployed youths assisting his campaign. They admit the result will be tight but as one worker put it: "Surely John Hume must be worth a few votes to us."

But PSF is the main target and threat to his party's future having taken 42.6 per cent compared with the SDLP's 47.1 per cent of the nationalist vote in the last general election.

During the campaign the military wing of PSF has killed three former or serving members of the security forces, indicating clearly that the "ballot box and armable" approach to politics is in operation, as Mr Morrison, the author of the phrase, campaigns.

It is likely that Mr Hume will retain his seat though it will be the margin of his victory that everyone will examine and if PSF continues to rise it will cause further alarm in both London and Dublin as well as sapping even more the morale of an already demoralized SDLP.

Owen critical of summits

Economic summits were a backdrop for domestic elections, Dr David Owen, the SDP leader, told an Alliance press conference yesterday.

Last year, Williamsburg provided the backdrop for Mrs Thatcher and now Britain's taxpayers provide a backdrop for President Reagan and the United States.

Mr David Steel, the Liberal Party leader, said that he had three questions for Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader.

"What taxes are you going to

put up to pay for your agricultural policy?"

"How are you going to achieve your stated aim of establishing new priorities for Europe to tackle industrial decline and unemployment without an increase in the Community budget or Britain joining the European Monetary System?"

"How are you going to achieve coordinated economic policies in Europe when you want to dismantle the Community's institutions?"

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7/12/84

Pay strike by diplomats forces Israel to shut embassies worldwide

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

Israel yesterday faced what an official described as "near total diplomatic paralysis" as its embassies throughout the world and the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem were shut by a 72-hour strike called to step up a bitter pay dispute with the Government.

The diplomats' strike, which came amid growing labour unrest in a country where inflation is at more than 400 per cent, threatened to disrupt today's visit by Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the United Nations Secretary-General. Twenty-six senior officials have received back-to-work orders from the Government.

The 26 should be enough for the talks to proceed, but the UN leader will not be permitted to enter the Foreign Ministry and will have to conduct his meetings elsewhere. The Israelis he will be dealing with have been issued with union lapel badges stating that they have

been ordered to work during the strike.

Yesterday, angry members of the 800 Foreign Ministry staff, who are seeking pay parity with staff of the defence establishment, paraded outside the offices of Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Prime Minister, carrying banners listing Israeli diplomats killed or wounded while serving abroad.

Until Thursday, no diplomatic mail will be sent, no cables will go in or out, the ministry gates will be picketed, no visas will be issued, and no telephone answered. The head of the Supreme Court, a former chief rabbi and a leading parliamentarian, were among the first affected when they were unable to obtain diplomatic passports for trips abroad.

The strike was the culmination of five months of increasingly acrimonious nego-

tations. The diplomats were demanding special compensation for their skills.

Israeli sources said the strike showed the extent of unrest inside the foreign service right up to the highest levels.

The diplomats' action coincided with the disclosure that Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, had told Israel last week that without a significant effort to solve the economic problems, and to lower the standard of living, American financial aid could be endangered.

According to Jerusalem sources, Mr Shultz told Mr Moshe Arens, the Defence Minister, in Washington last week that without an effort to reduce inflation, US aid would be more harmful than helpful to Israel. He praised the economic reform programme drawn up by the Government but complained that there had been little progress in carrying it out.



Victim: The body of Adnan Karake, bottom left, photographer of Beirut's Daily Star.

Trudeau exits with guns blazing

From John Best
Ottawa

Mr Pierre Trudeau, the Canadian Prime Minister, has made his exit from the international stage in appropriate fashion: with guns blazing.

Canadian newspapers yesterday front-page treatment yesterday to a sizzling argument between the Prime Minister and President Reagan at the London summit over dealing with Moscow.

The argument culminated in

Mr Reagan taking off his glasses and, apparently stung by Mr Trudeau's criticisms, telling him: "Damn it, Pierre, I have said everything. We have even faced empty chairs... what the hell more can I do to get those [Soviets] back to the table? You're telling me, we haven't done it."

On returning to Ottawa, Mr Trudeau did not dispute the account by Mr Donald Reagan, the US Treasury Secretary, but added detail. He said that he replied to President Reagan:

"For heaven's sake, Ron, do a bit more." Asked whether Mr Reagan had given him a "dressing down", Mr Trudeau replied testily: "Tell them they are flaring. Them apparently referred to people on the president's team."

The flare-up represented a fitting farewell by Mr Trudeau, who will soon step down as Prime Minister and leader of Canada's Liberal Party.

He has been Prime Minister for more than 15 years.

Berlinguer dies after four days in coma

Padua (Reuters) - The Italian communist leader, Signor Enrico Berlinguer, who led his party away from Soviet influence but failed to bring it to power in Italy, died yesterday, after a stroke sent him into an irreversible coma.

Signor Berlinguer, who was 62, never recovered consciousness after collapsing with a brain haemorrhage on Thursday at a hotel in Padua after addressing a rally for his party's European election campaign.

Hopes for his survival faded steadily and by yesterday morning doctors said brain activity had ceased. His death at 12.45pm was announced by the Padua civil hospital and by Communist Party headquarters in Rome.

The death of Signor Berlinguer, a softly-spoken Sardinian who for 12 years led the largest Communist Party in Western Europe and Italy's second biggest party, touched a chord in most Italians. Even his political enemies hailed him as a man of integrity.

President Sandro Pertini, who had spent most of the past few days at the hospital, said he would take the body with him to Rome on the presidential plane for burial tomorrow.

The Pope sent condolences to the family and a Vatican statement described the Communist leader as "a man esteemed for his seriousness and his commitment". Tributes came also from the French, Spanish and Portuguese governments and Communist parties.

Signor Berlinguer's devoted Catholic wife Letizia, his four children and his brother Giovanni were in an adjoining room at the hospital when he died. A priest was also present but did not see Signor Berlinguer.

Signor Berlinguer, who took over as party general secretary in 1972 from Signor Luigi Longo, launched out with fellow parties in several other countries in the 1970s on a course of greater independence from Moscow which became known as "Eurocommunism".

The Italian communists persisted with that course although the French Communist Party drifted back towards the Kremlin and the Spaniards were riven by internal feuds.

Signor Berlinguer failed in an attempt to achieve power in Italy through an "historical compromise" with the dominant Christian Democrats, who never allowed the Communists into government.

Obituary, page 16

Nakasone plea for free trade

By Henry Stanhope
Diplomatic Correspondent

Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, the Japanese Prime Minister, called last night for untiring efforts to protect free trade and counter the trend towards protectionism.

Industrialized countries, faced with serious economic difficulties, should beware of adopting inward-looking policies, he told the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London.

The time had come not to limit ourselves to trade but to promote industrial cooperation and build up transnational ties in science and technology.

"The world is on the verge of a new era of technological breakthrough. We are entering the age of the 'information society' with technologies that will open up new frontiers for human civilization in the twenty-first century," he said.

Mr Nakasone, who was speaking after attending the London economic summit, followed by bilateral talks with Mrs Margaret Thatcher, also pointed to the Asia-Pacific region as a centre of greater economic growth.

"I know that some people in Europe have mixed feelings about the dynamic economic development under way in the Asia-Pacific region, and the increasing attention which the United States is giving to it. But we should not think of the Atlantic versus the Pacific or Europe against Asia. Dynamic development of this region will benefit the entire free world."

"My dream is that of a strong Europe and a developing Asia-Pacific, linked together in mutual prosperity and working together for the common good of all peoples."

Japan attached great importance to its relations with China, which had realistic and independent policies at present.

"I believe that Japanese efforts to promote our friendly relations with China can help to improve the climate for world peace and stability," he said.

Mr Nakasone referred to Japan's "strained relations" with the Soviet Union. But the more strained those became the more important it was to maintain and strengthen on its dialogue with Moscow.

The free world needed a common strategy to respond to the Soviet challenge and should be neither subservient nor inflexible in its approach.

Mr Nakasone, who was delivering the Aikatsu Buchanan Memorial Lecture to the institute, returns to Tokyo today.

Leading article, page 15

Commentary



Geoffrey Smith

Although Senator Gary Hart will formally maintain his candidacy, he has now tacitly conceded that Mr Walter Mondale will be the Democratic presidential nominee. So the time has come for Mr Mondale to turn his attention to the selection of a vice-presidential candidate to run with him in November. Ever since the assassination of John Kennedy and still more with later assassinations, and attempted assassinations, this choice has become critical.

It used to be enough for a presidential candidate to choose a running mate who would balance the ticket in terms of immediate electoral appeal. So a northerner would select a southerner, an easterner would prefer someone from the west, a Protestant might choose a Catholic, and a Catholic would certainly have a Protestant to run with him. But now such factors, while not unimportant, have become a secondary consideration.

The Vice-President is seen these days as the President-in-waiting. The chance that he might suddenly have to take over is regarded as much more than a remote possibility. So to have a convincing ticket a party needs to field two candidates who would not look out of place in the Oval Office.

Goldwater followed the old rules

In the 1964 election, the first one after the assassination, Lyndon Johnson deliberately selected Hubert Humphrey as the man best qualified to succeed him "should that day come". Johnson would no doubt have defeated Senator Barry Goldwater in any case, but he made his victory absolutely certain by choosing Humphrey while Goldwater followed the old rules in picking a relatively obscure New York politician, William Miller.

In 1968 the Democratic vice-presidential candidate, Mr Ed Muskie, was much more impressive than the Republican choice, Mr Spiro Agnew, which was one reason why Humphrey made up so much ground to run Mr Nixon so close. Four years later both parties muffed their selection of the second man, with the Republicans sticking to Mr Agnew, and Senator McGovern choosing a horse when it was discovered that Senator Eagleton had previously undergone electric shock treatment for depression.

It was a lesson not lost on Mr Jimmy Carter who took great care in 1976 to pick a running mate in Mr Mondale who looked more convincing than President Ford's choice of Senator Robert Dole, who had not then become the considerable figure in Republican politics that he is now.

It was even more important for Mr Reagan, seeking the presidency at the age of 69 in 1980, to have someone who seemed capable of taking over if the need arose. That was why he picked Mr George Bush, not because he had appreciated Mr Bush's attacks on him during the primary campaign.

Priority to choose someone credible

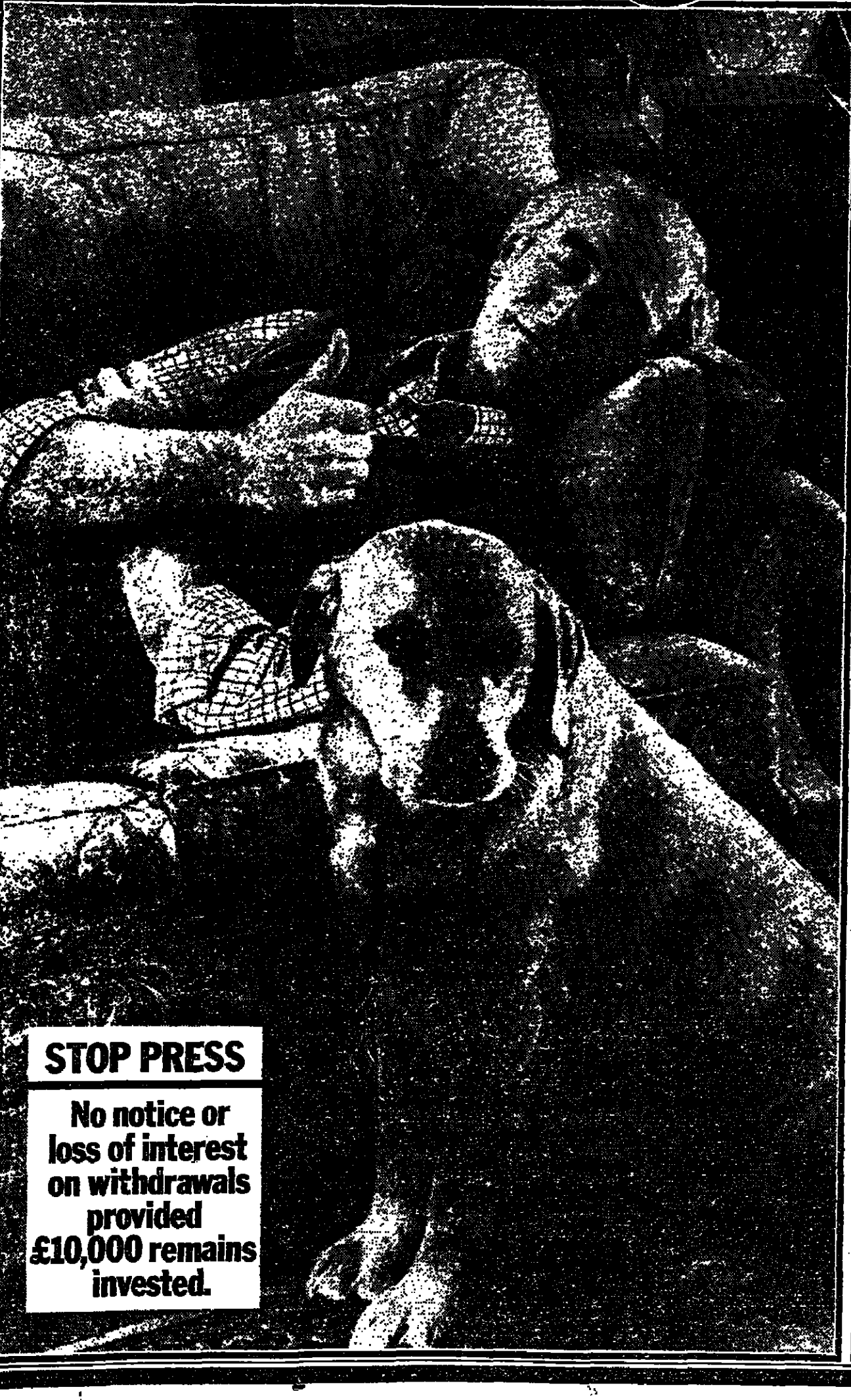
So, since the death of John Kennedy, only in 1968 has the party with the weaker vice-presidential candidate won the election - and then only just. It follows that Mr Mondale's first priority should be to have someone who would look credible as a potential President. This rules out the Rev. Jesse Jackson; the United States is not ready for a black President. Does it also rule out a woman?

Not automatically. The United States would be ready to have a woman as President. But to put a woman on the ticket for the sake of novelty or just to capture the woman's vote would be disastrous. The critical question is whether the person is someone to whom the convention might reasonably turn as presidential candidate if Mr Mondale's plane were to crash as it flew into San Francisco.

The woman most frequently mentioned as a vice-presidential possibility, Mrs Geraldine Ferraro, a Congresswoman from New York, is a person of great charm with an independent mind. But she does not yet pass that test.

The person who does most obviously is Senator Hart, and there is much to be said for a candidate choosing his nearest rival, as Mr Reagan did in 1980. Perhaps in this instance relations between the two men may be too bad, or Senator Hart may not be keen to join what does not look a hopeful enterprise. But Mr Mondale needs above all a political heavy-weight.

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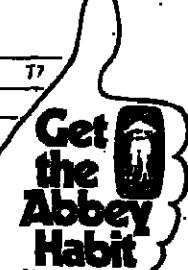
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Honduras aims to cut American training of Salvadorean troops

From Alan Tomlinson, Tegucigalpa

Honduras is renegotiating its military treaty with the United States under which Salvadorean soldiers are trained in Honduras by American special forces alongside local troops.

The Honduran army is concerned that far more Salvadoreans than Hondurans are passing through the regional military training centre at Puerto Castilla on the north coast.

Honduras still regards El Salvador as a potential enemy after a short but bitter war in 1969 which leaves a border dispute unresolved.

The training centre was established a year ago as a means for American Green Berets to train the Salvadorean army without increasing the number of US military advisers in El Salvador itself, which is limited by Congress to 55.

There are 150 US advisers at the centre which, although it is technically owned by the Hondurans, was built with \$5.3m (£3.8m) of US funds earmarked for military assistance to El Salvador.

Last year, 1,500 Salvadorean soldiers were trained there on six-week counter-insurgency courses, compared with 700 Hondurans. A US military official said a similar proportion of trainees was planned this year.

General Walter Lopez, the chief of the new Honduran armed forces, said he wanted to reverse these proportions. He said negotiations were taking place with US Embassy officials in Tegucigalpa in an atmosphere of "complete harmony".

General Lopez, a hero of the 1969 war, took control of the armed forces from General Gustavo Alvarez two months ago in a barracks coup supported by young officers.

General Alvarez has been criticized since for making important decisions without consulting his officer corps or taking account of the best Honduran interests in his close collaboration with the Americans over how to deal with the perceived military threat from Nicaragua.

A senior Honduran officer said the problem of the disproportionate number of Salvadoreans at the centre had concerned officers from the outset. With the change of command of the armed forces "the moment was considered opportune to revise the arrangement".

The Foreign Minister, Señor Edgardo Paz Barrios, said: "We think it is time to reevaluate the situation. A fundamental principle of the Contadora peace negotiations in the area of Central American security is to reestablish the military equilibrium broken by the excessive armament of Nicaragua."

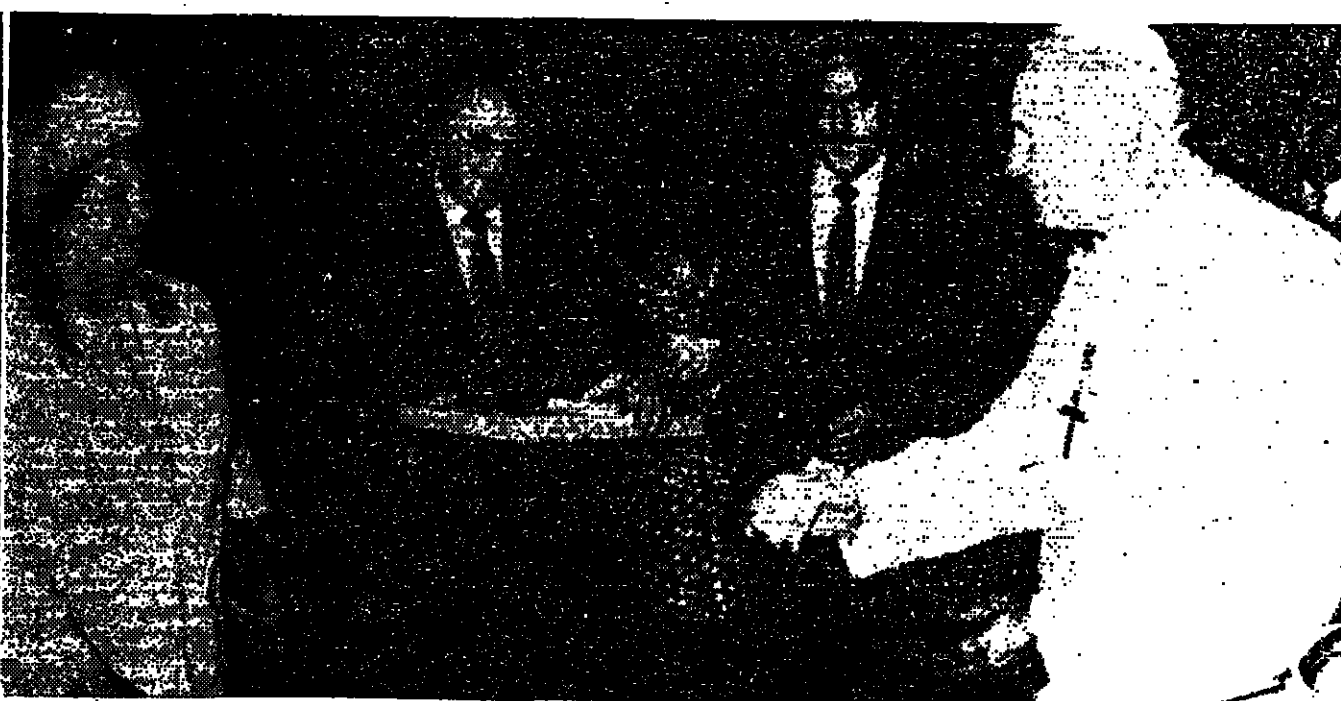
"But we do not want this regional imbalance to become even more accentuated by the presence of a technically superior army facing Honduras in El Salvador, especially while we have not resolved the border question."

A peace treaty between Honduras and El Salvador was not signed until 1980, 11 years after the war. Since then, regular talks have failed to resolve disputed sovereignty over several *bolsones*, or pockets of border territory. If the matter is not settled by next year, it will be referred to the international court at The Hague.

Some observers in Honduras say the Government's real aim in renegotiating the Salvadorean issue at the centre is to press the Salvadorean Government to reach a settlement of the border question this year.

However, despite a mutual wariness between the two countries, their armies have been cooperating in security operations to drive leftwing Salvadorean guerrillas out of the *Bolsones* and over the past two weeks Salvadorean, Honduran and American troops have taken part in joint manoeuvres.

The manoeuvres ended on Thursday with an airborne assault by 730 paratroops of the three armies on an airstrip built by US army engineers near the Nicaraguan border.



Papal audience: The Pope handing Mrs P. W. Botha a medal as her husband (left) and Mr P. W. Botha watch.

Pope meets Botha but condemns apartheid

Rome (Reuters) - The Vatican condemned the policy of apartheid yesterday, shortly after the Pope met Mr P. W. Botha, the Prime Minister of South Africa, and Mr P. W. Botha, his Foreign Minister.

A statement, issued in an unusual procedure soon after the two South African leaders left Vatican City, reiterated that the Roman Catholic Church considered apartheid contrary to Christian principles and human dignity.

The Pope talked with the two for 25 minutes in his private study, a Vatican spokesman said, without giving details.

The statement also re-

affirmed Vatican support of independence for Namibia which South Africa administers in defiance of United Nations resolutions.

"As is noted, the Pope receives heads of state, of government and political personalities of different regimes that request to be received," the statement said. "Such meetings, while they do not mean per se approval of the politics that a government follows, offer the occasion to make known the point of view of the Holy See and the Church on specific questions."

Vatican sources called the statement firm, and said it was released to make it unequivocally clear that the audience should not be interpreted as approval of South African policy.

Last week the South African Anglican leader, Bishop Desmond Tutu, appealed to the Pope not to receive Mr Botha because the meeting might lead to a credibility to apartheid.

The United Democratic front, the multiracial alliance of some 400 organizations opposed to the Government, had also appealed to the Pope not to receive the South African visitors.

The Vatican statement said the Holy See's support for

Namibian independence was well known and pointed out that the Pope publicly supported independence in an address to diplomats last January. It said the Vatican understood the problems of the region, including guerrilla warfare and tension with "African people obviously opposed to any form of colonialism and racial discrimination".

It noted that the Roman Catholic church in South Africa had spoken out against apartheid, saying it was "against the Christian principle of equal dignity of all men".

Swapo chief deplores arrest of 37 leaders

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

South Africa's arrest of 37 Swapo leaders was condemned yesterday by Mr Sam Nujoma, president of the guerrilla organization, who is visiting Washington.

Mr Nujoma said that the detentions were further evidence that South Africa was not serious about granting independence to Namibia. He said that the arrests took place less than a week after Mr P. W. Botha, the Prime Minister, had assured European leaders that he and other exiled Swapo leaders could visit the territory in safety.

One of the Swapo officials arrested had just returned from peace talks in Zambia. "It is illogical to think that the South Africans are genuine when they say they are prepared to grant independence to Namibia", he said.

Mr Nujoma called on the international community to impose sanctions against South Africa. He will press this case when he visits the United Nations later this week.

The arrests will be raised by Mr Chester Crocker, Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, who is in Rome for talks with the South African Prime Minister and Mr P. W. Botha, the Foreign Minister.

Mr Crocker's talks were arranged before the arrests and are expected to concentrate on Namibian independence.

Contadora group devises plan for peace

San Salvador (Reuters) - The foreign ministers of the four-nation Contadora group have wound up a Central American tour aimed at reaching a peaceful solution to the crisis in the region.

The ministers from Mexico, Colombia, Panama and Venezuela gave President Jose Napoleon of El Salvador a document containing recommendations for implementing a 21-point Contadora peace plan approved earlier this year.

El Salvador was the final leg of the two-day tour which took them to Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras and Guatemala.

The 56-page document is based on reports of three special commissions set up in January. It includes recommendations for agreement on arms reduction, removal of foreign forces from the region, human rights and pluralistic democracy.

The Foreign Ministry of Venezuela Señor Isidro Morales Paul, said.

As the tour ended, the Contadora ministers admitted that the five Central American

nations could not agree on all points of the plan and in those cases the document tried to include all views of the parties concerned.

A letter accompanying the document said: "Our major goal was to achieve a just balance that satisfies all of the parties involved in the complex Central American panorama." It did not specify what the points of disagreement were but diplomatic sources said they concerned the military balance in the area.

Nicaragua has defended its military buildup in the face of attacks by US-backed rebels on its northern and southern borders.

The document also provides for the participation of third parties in the Contadora process. According to the sources, that would allow Cuba and the United States to be involved.

The ministers, who returned to Panama on Sunday, will now work to get the parties to sign a regional peace accord before elections in the United States and Nicaragua in November.

Basque flag protest adds to tension

From Our Correspondent, Madrid

A Spanish senator who admitted that he took a Basque flag from the army museum here has added to tensions between military men and Basque nationalists by telling a cheering crowd in the northern town of Andacola that the flag "won't go back to where it was held prisoner for 40 years".

Senator Joseba Elizegui of the Basque Nationalist Party (PNV), a former commander of a Basque unit which fought against General Franco's forces in the Spanish Civil War, made his remarks at celebrations marking "Basque soldiers day" on Sunday.

The senator also alluded to long-term nationalist aims of uniting the Spanish Basque country with the Basque region across the French border to form a single independent country.

The president of the autonomous Basque region, Señor Carlos Garaikotxea, also made remarks at the meeting which can be expected to anger some members of the military establishment. The Basque leader, from the province of Navarre, reiterated the PNV's claim that Navarre, a separate autonomous region in Spain is part of Euzkadi, the Basque country. He refused to comment on Senator Elizegui's decision to take the flag from the army museum.

Argentina gets backing of Spain

From Harry Debelius, Madrid

President Alfonsín of Argentina and Señor Felipe Gonzalez, the Spanish Prime Minister, are expected to reassure each other of mutual support on the Falklands and Gibraltar during Señor Alfonsín's official visit which began here yesterday.

Nevertheless, observers said, other problems are expected to dominate the talks, primarily those arising from the recent restoration of democracy in Argentina after seven years of military rule and that country's massive foreign debt.

The three-day visit and a subsequent unofficial trip constitute the Argentine head of state's first journey abroad since he was elected last November. The president, aged 57, will leave Madrid on Wednesday and continue to the north western region of Galicia to visit the home town of his grandparents.

King Juan Carlos greeted the president and his wife in Madrid. Last night the Spanish king and queen were hosting a formal dinner.

● **BRITISH REPLY:** The Foreign Office yesterday replied to Argentine criticism of British "inflexibility" over the Falklands by pointing out that the Government had publicly expressed its readiness to take part in official talks on normalizing relations between London and Buenos Aires.

Amritsar witness puts death toll at 1,000

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

According to a report by a witness who has just come out of the Sikh's holy city of Amritsar, more than 1,000 people have died in the fight for control of the Golden Temple.

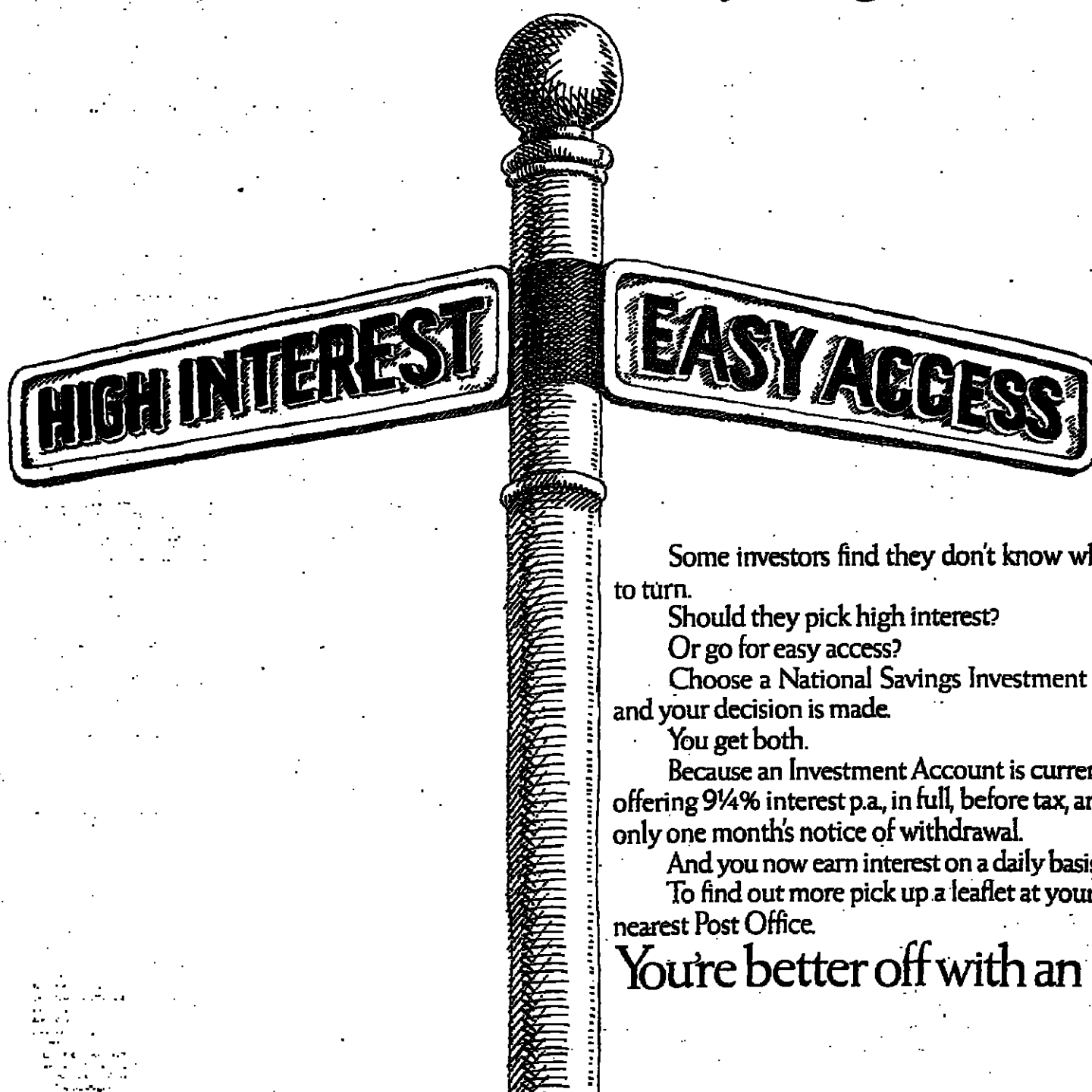
Mr Brahma Chellaney, aged 26, a reporter for Associated Press, stayed in Amritsar after the rest of the foreign reporters were ordered out of Punjab by the authorities. In a telephone call from the city yesterday he reported that, according to police and military sources, 800 militants and 200 troops died in the operation.

Mr Chellaney added that 780 cremations have taken place, with bodies being carried away on rubbish lorries, and burnt 30

at a time because of the shortage of wood. He also reported that during the week-long curfew inflicted on the city by the authorities, which was tightly enforced, six people starved to death because they were not able to get out to buy food.

● **BANK CLOSED:** Angry Sikhs forced a bank to close in Kent yesterday as a mark of respect for their dead colleagues in Amritsar. About 25 Sikhs told the Punjab National Bank in Gravesend that they would draw out all their money, about £1m, if the manager did not comply with their request for a 24-hour closure.

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Where living within the law is no protection

Nimeiry's regime alienates even his allies

With opposition to his rule mounting on all sides, President Nimeiry decreed a state of emergency on April 29. Since then, hundreds of people have been arrested, lashed and imprisoned. In the second of two articles on the crisis in Sudan, a correspondent looks at the current wave of repression.

Last month in Khartoum a man was sentenced to death for committing adultery. This was the first death sentence although dozens of men and women have been sentenced to up to 100 lashes, combined with a year in prison and fines of up to Sudan £1,000 (about £535) for the same offence. Adultery in Sudan means sexual intercourse between two people, whether married or single, who are not married to one another.

THE SUDAN part 2

Living inside the law is in itself no protection today for nobody knows what that law is until somebody is sentenced for a previously unknown offence. The frequent assurances, including those from ministers, judges and President Gaafar Nimeiry himself, that non-Muslims, whether Sudanese or foreign, were allowed to possess alcohol for their own consumption, are now clearly empty ones.

Since alcohol was banned last September Sudanese non-

Muslims, mostly southerners, have been vulnerable to arrest on drinking charges. Hundreds of the usually poor southerners who throng northern towns have been lashed on the order of judges who were often members of the extreme right-wing Muslim Brotherhood.

The criticism on many lips in Khartoum is: "This is not Islam." Devout Muslims have been horrified and deeply offended by what they describe as not only an attack on the people but also on their religion.

President Nimeiry said last week that he wanted the People's Assembly (Parliament) to consider changes which would make the constitution more Islamic and endorse human rights. But under Sharia (Islamic) law punishments are strictly controlled. Lashings are intended for humiliation rather than pain. The offence of stealing public property should not be punishable by amputation. Yet the first two men to suffer "cross amputation" - of the right hand and the left foot - in Khartoum on May 21 had been found guilty of stealing power lines from the national grid.

The limbs of the men were amputated the day after their case hearing, as the 12 emergency courts in Khartoum are instructed to deliver and carry out sentence as quickly as possible.

Defendants are not allowed to have a lawyer or to appeal against sentence. The court is chaired by a judge and two



Happier days: President Nimeiry, left with President Mubarak of Egypt in 1982.

members of the Army, security or police forces.

This new departure outraged an already discontented population and caused concern as far away as Cairo and Washington, where President Nimeiry has his staunchest allies. Cairo's support has been visibly less enthusiastic since the imposition of Sharia last September, say informed

sources. President Hosni Mubarak's Government has despite an outward show of support, been trying hard to exert a moderating influence, both in northern and southern affairs, on its unpredictable ally.

Egyptian military support, for example, has been much less significant than has been claimed in Khartoum or by

southern rebels. Sources say that this assistance concentrates on air defence systems and involves fewer than 100 men.

Washington's position is perhaps less clear and is often described by insiders as "confused". Considering Sudan of great strategic value as the guardian of Egypt's flank, as the crucial barrier between Libya and Ethiopia and as Africa's window on the Red Sea oil routes, the United States has poured support into Khartoum, making it one of the biggest recipients of American aid. After the March 16 bombing of Omdurman, which killed Khartoum, Cairo and Washington all blamed Libya, although significantly, the "bombing" was described in Khartoum as a "terrorist" act.

However, now that the Sudanese Government is seen to be protecting its ally from its own population, some

hesitation has crept in. "We have no choice but to support Nimeiry," says a senior US official. "We have no choice but to support Nimeiry," says a senior US official. "We have no choice but to support Nimeiry," says a senior US official.

Polish police swoop on dissidents

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

The Polish police, who arrested one of Solidarity's key fugitive leaders at the weekend, appear to have stepped up their actions against the underground opposition ahead of crucial local elections next Sunday.

Reports from Solidarity sympathisers indicate that the police have been detaining dozens of Poles with suspected underground connections, checking printing houses, raiding apartments where posters and pamphlets were stored and warning known activists that they are under observation.

But the most important blow to the underground has come with the arrest of Mr Bogdan Lis, 33-year-old worker and a founding member of the Solidarity strike committee in the protest wave of August 1980.

Lis' arrest ranks along with that of Mr Zbigniew Romaszewski and Mr Wieslaw Frasyniuk as a serious setback. Mr Lis was the Gdansk representative on the leadership of the underground and there now remains only one fugitive leader, Mr Zdzislaw Bujak, who was an important figure in the Solidarity strike.

Although Mr Lech Walesa, the former chairman of Solidarity and Nobel peace laureate, insists that others will spring up to take the place of Mr Lis, it is clear that the security police have penetrated much of the local underground "cell". The election boycott campaign was

expected to be particularly strong in Gdansk and the other Baltic ports.

Both the authorities and Solidarity are hailing the local council elections on June 17 as a vital test of strength. If more than 60 per cent register their vote, the Government will no doubt hail it as a turnout as an example of popular legitimacy. If fewer than 60 per cent vote then the underground will hail the turnout as a sign of passive opposition to the Government and policies of General Jaruzelski.

The decision of Poland's leading dissident, Mr Jacek Kuron, to go on hunger strike from yesterday may be connected with the elections. Friends of the family say that Mr Kuron has become depressed about the slow progress in the cases of the Solidarity 11 - they are facing charges of preparing to overthrow the state by force - but the hunger strike may also have some tactical effect.

If he sticks to his refusal to eat he will reach a critical condition at about the time when the Government announce a victory at the polls.

Defence lawyers had speculated that the Government might be ready to release the Solidarity 11 soon after the local council elections as a gesture of generosity at the moment of "triumph". Mr Kuron's hunger strike would complicate the situation and might embarrass the authorities.

Zimbabwe chief to be given hero's burial

From Stephen Taylor, Harare

Chief Rekayi Tangwena, the tribal leader most closely associated with Zimbabwe's independence struggle, died on Sunday, aged 74, after suffering a stroke at a hotel in Nyanga, a tourist resort in the area for which he fought after it was reclassified for white occupation only. He will be buried at Hero's Acre on the outskirts of Harare.

Chief Tangwena, a lean, distinguished-looking figure whose tribal regalia was a leopard skin, was brought before the Rhodesian courts on several occasions for staying on white land. Although his right to occupation was upheld in the High Court, the authorities moved in, destroying huts and seizing cattle. The chief appealed to the Queen when the Smith administration confiscated his land in the 1970s. He wrote to her asking "Can the Queen agree to be moved to Italy?"

He is credited with helping Mr Robert Mugabe and Mr Edgar Tekere, at the time the top men in the Zanu nationalist movement, to escape across the border to Mozambique from where they successfully prosecuted the guerrilla war. In 1975 Chief Tangwena was forced to move to Mozambique with his people.

At independence he was appointed to the Senate.

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Marcos orders arrest of price profiteers

From Keith Dalton, Manila

After three days of frenzied panic buying left many supermarket shelves bare, 400 price-watch teams fanned out across the Philippines yesterday to arrest hoarders and profiteers charging inflated prices for basic commodities.

The price of 10 basic goods under Government price control increased by an average of 12 per cent at the weekend but artificial shortages and overpricing were reported throughout Manila. Goods not covered by government price control increased by an average of 10 per cent.

The price rises came after Wednesday's 22 per cent devaluation of the peso, the third devaluation in 12 months. That prompted a 25 per cent increase in petroleum products the next day which caused immediate increases in almost all food and consumer goods not covered by price controls.

The owners of five stores closed on Saturday for "overpricing and profiteering" face a maximum fine of ₱780 and up to five years' imprisonment.

Seventeen service station owners who closed early last week to avoid selling petrol to motorists at the old price could be fined ₱5,900 and lose their operating licences.

The present round of price increases, the most severe since the Second World War, began four days after the May 14 parliamentary election when President Marcos imposed an 8 per cent increase in petroleum products.

With the latest price increase the cost of petroleum products has jumped 33 per cent in three weeks.

Wage levels have not kept up with the rising costs which are expected to lead to an inflation rate higher than the 40 per cent recorded in April.

Tamils free lecturer in jail raid

From Our Correspondent, Colombo

Four Tamil rebels armed with machine guns snatched Mrs Mirnala Nithiyanthan, university lecturer, from Batticaloa prison in eastern Sri Lanka on Sunday night while the Minister of National Security, Mr Lalith Athulthumudali, was inspecting security arrangements in the district.

Mrs Nithiyanthan and a Roman Catholic priest, Father Aparanman Singarayar, were to have faced trial in Colombo High Court on Friday on charges of aiding and harbouring Tamil rebels who stormed a police station in the north, killing five constables.

Mrs Nithiyanthan and Father Singarayar broadcast appeals over the state radio on May 13 to rebels who had kidnapped the American couple Mr and Mrs Stanley Allen to release them for humanitarian reasons. The Allens were freed two days later.

Mrs Nithiyanthan's husband, who is a doctor, was among 40 prisoners detained under the Prevention of Terrorism Act who were snatched from Batticaloa prison on September 23. Rebels who were later identified as belonging to the People's Liberation Organisation of Tamil Eelam.

On that occasion Father Singarayar is said to have refused to join in the jailbreak because he wanted to establish his innocence in court, while Mrs Nithiyanthan was left behind as she was in the female cells which the rebels did not enter.

In an official version of Sunday's events, Mr Douglas Livanage, Secretary at the Ministry of State, said six or seven people, some of whom were dressed in prison guards' uniforms and some who were armed with revolvers, arrived at Batticaloa jail on Sunday night in two vehicles. They said that they had brought a remand prisoner for admission once inside they overpowered two prison guards and went to the female prisoners' cells.

He said Mrs Nithiyanthan, seeing them she allegedly said "I am here". Her decision to escape could have been due to the fact that her trial is due to begin on Friday.

Prisoners



of conscience

Turkey: Pasa Uzun

By Caroline Moorehead

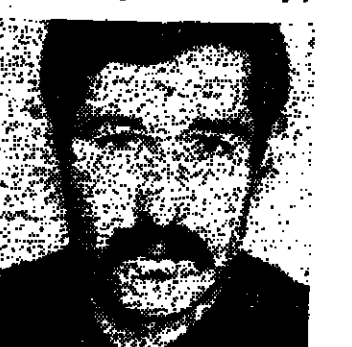
A founder member of a Kurdish cultural and youth association, detained since 1979, is one of the growing number of Turkish political prisoners to be subjected to torture. Mr Pasa Uzun, a trainee teacher aged 31, is reported to have been tortured repeatedly in Diyarbakir Military Prison where he has been held for the past five years. He is said to be in very poor health after an extended hunger strike.

Mr Uzun was a student at a teachers' training institute in Konya when he was arrested together with 200 other members of the Progressive Democratic and Cultural Association (DDKD), which had been legal until its proscription under martial law early in 1979.

During the opening hearing of the trial in November 1980 Mr Uzun delivered a 16-page statement, as a result of which he is said to have been severely tortured.

At later trials the DDKD defendants were joined by about 425 other detainees, all charged in connection with alleged Kurdish separatist activities.

No sentence is known to have been passed on Mr Uzun. But it is known that his torture has included suspension by his feet over a period of 22 days.



Mr Pasa Uzun: "Severely tortured"

THE ARTS

Galleries in Venice

Myth taking on the cloak of reality

La Biennale

Giardini del Castello/
Magazzini del Sale

Le Arti a Vienna

Palazzo Grassi

It is primarily the business of the Venice Biennale to be there, every two years; that it should be good as well is an unlooked-for bonus. Its contents, like those of a film festival, cannot be better than what is actually being done around the world, and most likely, for all sorts of reasons political, aesthetic and modish, it will be far worse than the best. As a whole, it is apt to seem uncritical, lacking any real central control (each country picks the contents of its own pavilion), but for this very reason it is an ideal way of testing the water.

There is a theme pavilion for each Biennale, but any connexion between the theme chosen by the organising body and the individual national exhibits is virtually coincidental, and so, if one seems to see a widespread tendency of any kind, it is likely to be because it is in fact there, rather than because a small group of theorists think it ought to be.

Since Venice is, after all, in Italy, it may not come as too much of a surprise that the main theme in the central pavilion, exemplified largely though not entirely by Italian painters, is "Art on Art", or in other words the sort of Pittura Colta I was writing about in London last week: works of art which take as their starting-point other works of art, either by assuming a style of the past or by varying a specific painting or sculpture.

There is an historical section, very distinguished: Picasso working over Velasquez, Duchamp putting a mousetrap on the *Mona Lisa*, a roomful of the later, long-despised baroque and Metaphysical works of de Chirico (as well as of his less-known but in many ways more interesting brother Carlo Savinio), and some wonderful Carras like his masterpiece of the Giottoque *Le figlie di Loh*.

Thus fortified, we continue, with dozens of present-day artists who mostly take their models much straighter, all the way to literal copy and detailed pastiche. Many of these are Italian (including several from the Edward Tottah show in London, the rest being in evidence instead at the open entry section at the Magazzini del Sale, but there is a scattering of Britons, such as Christopher Le Brun and Peter Greenaway, plus a few Americans, French etc.

So far, it is only a theory, and a home-grown Italian theory at that. One may like the works which spring from or chime with theory, or may think that they are just, as one conceptual artist said to me, "all that irrelevant nonsense" (I have no overall view: some of the artists look pretty good,

and I even found myself warming a bit to Gérard Garouste, who at least has a genuine flair for baroque composition on a large scale, while others suggest a peculiarly noxious mixture of emptiness, pretension and sheer laziness.) However, nonsense it may be, but a quick whisk round the other pavilions shows that it is by no means irrelevant to what is going on all over the world right now.

This looking towards the past, and approaching the creation of art by way of other art, seems to be the principal resort of artists as the tide of Zeitgeist neo-expressionism recedes (the solitary representative of Zeitgeist styles, Penck in the West German pavilion, already looks a little dated and quaint).

And it is not by any means just frivolous Italians painting androgynous youths. The East German pavilion is probably the most baroque, with a lot of very grim paintings full of savagery, violence and anguished protest at man's inhumanity to man. But, even there, the starting-point is frequently the art of the Renaissance or the baroque - Werner Tübke has looked closely at Breughel and Bosch, Dieter Weidenbach knows a thing or two about Dürer, and Arno Rink must be steeped in Veronese and Caravaggio as well as (more dubiously) Dali. And the title of this collection is, even more significantly, "The Actuality of Myth".

But, all over the Giardini you can find variations on the same: an Israeli who dissects and discusses old masters or enlarges details of Monet; a Greek whose painting vulgarly reworks Renaissance drawings in garish colors; a Colombian (Luis Caballero) whose painfully bloody scenes of torture and carnage are painted with a flair and intensity which do not betray the evident models in Titian and Tintoretto; a group of Japanese whose abstract brush-drawings and elegant gilded wood assemblages play exquisite variations on classic national themes.

One might frivolously suggest that the Biennale's other theme (as to borrow the title of a show currently touring Britain) "The Forgotten Fifties", I doubt whether Dufrenoy is deliberately harking back to his own past in the French pavilion's rather pathetic evidences of an apparently spent talent, or that the artists in the tulle-draped Hungarian pavilion deliberately mean to invoke the shade of Oliver Messel, but that particular tone is much in evidence. Most tellingly so when the work shown really dates from the Fifties, as in the Spanish pavilion's retrospective tribute to Antoni Clavé, which does well to remind us of his continuing talent.

The Russians, too, unexpectedly, manage to hit the nail of this year's show firmly on the head with a major retrospective of Alexander Tyshler (1898-1980), whose wistful blue-toned paintings of folk heroes and theatrical figures have their own faded Fiftish charm, and a group of astonishing futurist paintings from the early Twenties by Georgi Yakulov, including a stunning variation of the lion-attack,



Fortifying masterpiece of the Giottoque: Carrá's *Le figlie di Loh* (1919) in the Biennale's central pavilion

ing-a-horse theme painted for an artists' taste of the time which might have been designed expressly for the theme pavilion just yesterday.

Naturally, many of the most impressive national shows go off in their own directions. The Finns strike lucky twice with a selection of Kain Tapper's wonderfully strong, sensitive wood sculptures, abstracts which yet call to mind bones and stones textured by wind and weather (Tapper, disgracefully little known, outside Finland, is undoubtedly one of Europe's very best sculptors), and Carl-Erik Ström's photographs of an edible snail's improbable adventures, which ought to be insufferably cute but achieve instead an immaculate semi-surrealist cool.

Norway's artful 73-year-old primitive Bendik Riis is also a pleasure to meet, like Argentina's even more artful manipulator of primitive styles and themes, Antonio Seguí. And in the free-entry section at the Magazzini, I especially liked the strange sculptures of Helen Chadwick, who covers wood constructions with photographic images to memorable and ghostly effect.

But I have kept the best for last. It is pleasing to relate that the triumph of the Biennale has been the British pavilion, devoted entirely to Howard Hodgkin: the work itself looks even

stronger than one might expect, it is immaculately hung, and the British Council's presentation, documentation and even publicity cannot be faulted. It may sound lukewarm to say that this is a triumph, above all of sheer professionalism, but, in a context of hopeless amateurishness and sheer incompetence, one can hardly think of higher praise.

That show, suitably augmented, will be coming to London next year, to the reopened Whitechapel Art Gallery. Alas, we shall have no chance to see the incredible show at the Palazzo Grassi (open, like the rest of the Biennale, until early September). The Arts in Vienna from the Secession to the Fall of the Habsburg Empire. This is an impossible dream of the next-to-ideal show: more than 2,000 pieces, taking in every aspect of Jugendstil painting and decorative arts, as strong in the known masterpieces of Klimt, Schiele, Hofmann, Moser and other big names as in the most obscure painters and designers and decorators.

Perhaps it is excessive, but the excess itself is sublime. Even if you cannot bear modern art of any description, this show alone is worth the cost of a trip to Venice in Biennale time: just allow yourself a week to take it in properly.

John Russell Taylor

Aldeburgh Festival

Homage in the form of antidote

Horn trios

Snap Maltings

The Aldeburgh Festival scored quite a coup on Sunday in securing the first British performance of György Ligeti's Horn Trio, his most important work for several years, and by that token a musical landmark of the 1980s. Ligeti describes the work as a "homage to Brahms", which it certainly is in its scoring: hitherto the combination of violin, horn and piano on the concert platform has inevitably meant Brahms's Op 40, with which this recital suitably began. But Ligeti's music is far from being beholden to Brahms in style (which would be inconceivable: his homage takes the form of an antidote).

Where the Brahms Trio presents us with its orchestra in microcosm, combining in social intercourse, Ligeti's work is played by three individuals who have happened to come together. Its first movement is a dialogue for the violin and horn punctuated by icy chords from the piano, but the dialogue is one in which there is no real exchange: the two parties shift position in their clearly marked-off statements, but any shift in one is exactly mirrored by a move in the other, so that they revolve in diametric opposition.

The second and third movements, both quick and rhythmic, are machines in which the violin and the piano are involved as meshing cogwheels while the horn is left as a bystander. Then the finale is an adagio, stretching expressive motifs out, sigh upon sigh, so slowly and meticulously that the feeling is thoroughly objectified while remaining poignant.

Very little here is an all-comparable with the work of the 1960s by which Ligeti is still best known: those scintillating curtains of choral and orchestral sound. And yet it is out of such mists and clouds that Ligeti has gradually created for himself a musical style of the range, subtlety, excitement and exactness displayed in this Horn Trio. All it needs is a more positively enacted and projected performance than Saschko Gawriloff, Robin Graham and Eckart Besch were able to manage on Sunday. Rather in the manner of Ligeti's opera, the piece needs strong characters, which it is well calculated to bend to its own odd and clever purposes.

Earlier in the day the festival had taken an outing to the imposing but unlovely parish church of Beccles, the market town on the banks of the Waveney, ten miles inland from Britain's home town of Lowestoft. The programme was one of English music sung by the BBC

Northern Singers, interspersed with readings by Sir Peter Pears from Hopkins and MacNeice: poets chosen to chime with the new things in the programme from the Britten archive and from Sirphen Wilkinson, conductor of the singers.

The Britten was *AMDG*, a cycle of four prayers and holy songs by Hopkins which the composer set early in his American period. In August 1939, choosing as title the usual abbreviation of the dedication *Ad Majorem Dei gloriam*. The settings were composed for a vocal consort led at the time by Peter Pears, and Britten even gave them an opus number, though he quickly dethroned them.

The performance did not make one want to reverse his decision. They are really rather ordinary. Very little in them sounds like authentic Britten, and surprisingly for this composer - surprisingly for this poet - there is a squareness that speaks of the Anglican anthem tradition, with no hint of the choral masterpieces soon to follow. Perhaps the supply of posthumous Britten that has given the festival so much fascinating material in recent years is running out. But, if it can be replaced by premieres as inspiring as the Ligeti, Aldeburgh will not be the poorer.

Paul Griffiths

Recital

Ivo Pogorelich Festival Hall

From Ivo Pogorelich we never quite know what to expect, such is his determination to throw new light on whatever comes his way. His unpredictability arouses curiosity, and helps to explain his lure. At 25 one of the youngest recitalists in the South Bank series, he practically filled the Festival Hall on Sunday afternoon with a musician's rather than a keyboard tiger's programme.

His most demonstrative work was Chopin's B minor Sonata. But even here he was not until the finale that he chose to remind us he was using a powerful concert grand. For the rest he played as if trying to recapture the fragrance of a dream barely remembered on waking. The nocturne-like Largo responded best to his confidential phrasing and fragile sound-world. Its magic was hypnotic. Rarely too can the scherzo's *leggero* quavers have streamed faster or more delicately from anyone's fingers. But the opening movement needed a firmer basic tempo, a stronger sense of shape. Here timing and shading were too

capriciously personal to uphold the *magistro* which Chopin qualifies his *allegro*.

The first half went to Bach and Mozart. As if trying to persuade us he was using some lightweight period instrument he approached Bach's A minor English Suite with the same off-in-fingers that made one of his encores - it sounded like Scarlatti - a memory to treasure for life. But tempo was often dangerously fast, too fast for characteristic rhythmic definition, certainly too fast for the ear's 40 savour contrapuntal subtlety. His *Adagio* was breathtaking. But this was Pogorelich's Bach rather than Johann Sebastian's - except for the Sarabande, played with touching simplicity.

After an opening theme sounding too solid for an Andante grazioso, Mozart's major Sonata, K331, brought only one really questionable quirk. Each time it came Mr Pogorelich played the Menuetto's initial two-bar motif like some fateful "motto", divorced in tempo from the rest. Elsewhere good sense prevailed. With its bold dynamic contrasts, the Turkish finale was tremendous fun.

Joan Chissell

London debuts

Melena Hanzabassanov, a Bulgarian pianist, suffered several memory slips in her otherwise intelligently conceived programme. Handel's *Pastorale* in G minor cleverly preceded Brahms's *Handel Variations*, Op 24, and although Miss Hanzabassanov seemed at times to be struggling with the latter's severe technical demands, she made a thoroughly musical sound, and the variety of tonal colour was impressive, while Ginastera's ebullient *Sonata* went with an idiomatic swing.

The repertoire for horn, violin and piano is limited, and by far the most substantial and most engagingly played work in the Festival Trio's recital was the Brahms Horn Trio. It was a little odd to see the eminent horn player Anthony Halstead at the piano, and if the truth be told he sounded more like a competent amateur than a fully-fledged professional. Frank Lloyd made some exquisite sounds on the horn itself, while Carol Slater, the violinist, had a rough-edged tone and seemed to struggle with the demands of Lennox Berkeley's prosaic Horn Trio and Debussy's marvellous Violin Sonata.

Stephen Pettitt

Television

European exploits

In Berlin in 1884 the Europeans, Belgians, exploited the colonies divided up Africa in the image for their own profit, destroying everything, not taking care with their cash-crop policy, the ground in the belief, essential to their self-serving purpose, that Africans were inferior, child-like beings. Only Ethiopia, then Abyssinia, and Liberia were left outside European possession.

King Leopold of the Belgians saw it as "this magnificent African cake" and the slice he grabbed was the Congo, where a reign of terror was conducted. There was forced labour to collect the rubber and brutal punishments, such as the amputation of hands and feet, were inflicted on the laggards. The excesses of the Congo eventually caused a storm in Europe but no European, as Mr Basil Davidson suavely makes clear on Channel 4 in his Africa series each week, can be proud of the white record.

Indeed it would not be inappropriate had Mr Davidson, who is pretty well groomed and dapper throughout, chosen sackcloth and ashes on our behalf for his journey. Last night he was looking at the way Britain, France, Portugal and Germany, as well as the

Dennis Hackett

Evian Festival

Walking on water

Evian is for most of us a bottle of water with a pink label. But it is also a small town stepped into the French bank of the Lake of Geneva and, since 1976, the site of an annual music festival that focuses unusually on young performers. The kernel each year is a competition for young string quartets, in which the Eder, Takacs, Brodsky and Hagen quartets have counted among previous prize-winners. Each year, too, there has been an American conservatory orchestra in residence.

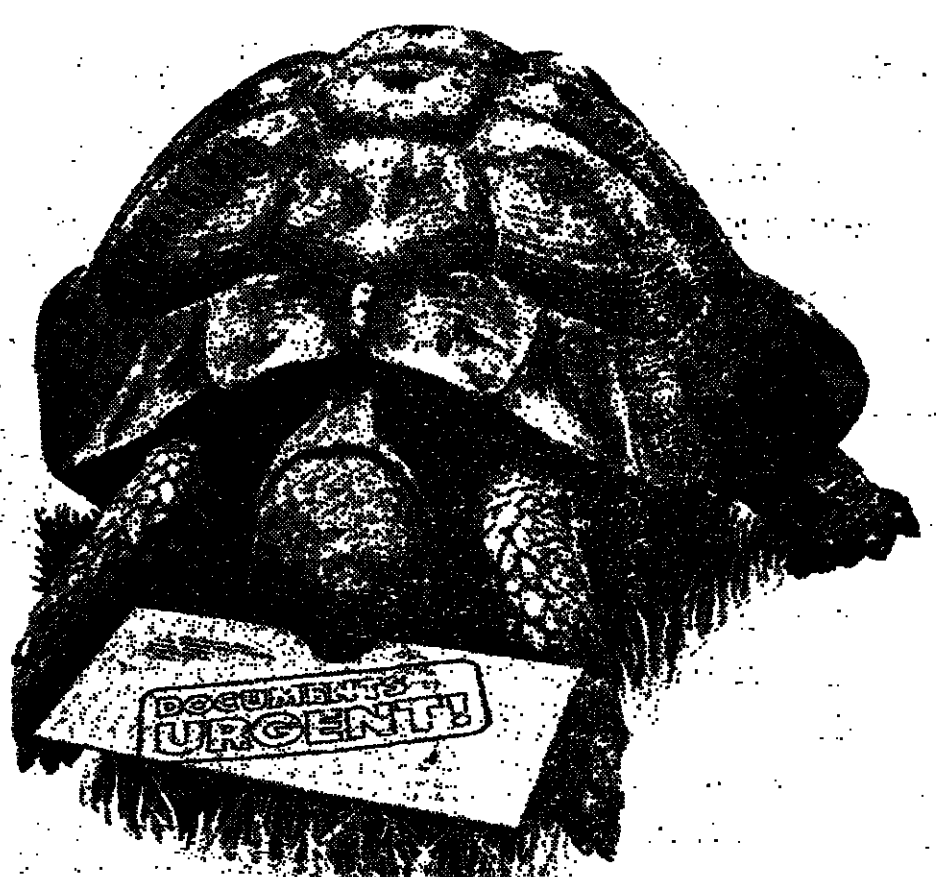
The cynic might regard this accent on youth as merely a device of economy, but in fact the Evian Festival is ultimately indifferent to harsher realities. Supported by the water business, which is itself part of the huge BSN corporation, the festival proceeds on a sumptuous course each spring between the Royal Hotel (where Stravinsky spent the last summer of his life) and the casino in the town below. It is a place of luxury measure that commences, or at least French tax legislation, can be of benefit to the arts.

The danger is that this financial buffing can make the festival etiolated, self-regarding and safe; and indeed there is an alarming lack of thought in the programming of the main events. A festival that can begin with Les Percussions de Strasbourg in Xenakis, Cage and Varèse, then proceed immediately to the Festival Strings of Lucerne in Bach and Beethoven, is obviously relying on reputations made 20 years ago and making a policy of the easiest choice. As it happens, the Strasbourg percussionists are as exact and exciting now as they were in the 1960s. Rudolf Baumgartner and his Lucerne strings, though, have long had their day.

Much the best of the formal concerts in Evian this year came not from these groups but from the orchestra of the Curtis Institute of Philadelphia, who scored a great success in two concerts under the baton of Christopher Seaman. The orchestra includes almost the whole student population from one of the top conservatories in the United States; it is, therefore, an orchestra of potential soloists, but of soloists still able and even eager to enjoy the challenge of teamwork. Because the strings are all really playing, none of them just marking time, they produce a sound of quite remarkable depth, richness and

Paul Griffiths

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Capital transfer tax claim fails

Swales and Others v Inland Revenue Commissioners
Before Mr Justice Nicholls
[Judgment delivered June 8]

A claim by the Crown that the trustees of the late Sir Jules Thoro's discretionary settlement became liable to substantial capital transfer tax liability when his granddaughter attained 21 in August 1976 did not succeed.

The effect of an appointment by the settlement trustees before capital transfer tax was introduced had given an "interest in possession" in the fund to Sir Jules Thoro's daughter with the consequence that liability under paragraph 6(2) of Schedule 5 to the Finance Act 1975 did not thereafter arise.

Mr Justice Nicholls so held in a reserved judgment in the Chancery Division granting the trustees a declaration that determinations made against them to the tax be quashed.

In 1947 Sir Jules Thoro settled shares on protective trust for his wife for her life and thereafter one half on trust for his son and the other half on like trust for his daughter. The trusts of the daughter's half were to pay the income to the daughter for life and thereafter to hold the fund on discretionary trusts for her children with power to her to appoint, and in default of appointment in trust for her children who attained 21 in equal shares. The settlement provided for cross-remainders of the two halves of the fund on failure of the trusts of either half.

In 1964 the court approved an arrangement in respect of the daughter's fund. Thereby, *inter alia*, 80 per cent of the daughter's share was to be held on discretionary trust to pay or apply income as it arose to the daughter and her children subject to the trustees' power of appointment over capital and income that was stated in clause 3 of the arrangement to be exercisable "if any child of the daughter attains the age of 21 years or being female attains that age or marries".

In 1970 the trustees resolved to appoint the income of that 80 per cent of the fund to the daughter absolutely. At that date no child of the daughter had attained 21 or married. Thereafter the daughter and her family emigrated to Switzerland. In August 1976 the daughter's eldest child attained 21.

The determinations to the tax on the trustees were made on the basis that the 1970 appointment operated to give the daughter a contingent interest in the income of the fund only, which fell into possession in August 1976 and which then gave rise to a charge to the tax under paragraph 6(2) of Schedule 5 on a capital distribution equal to the value of the fund.

Mr J. M. Price, QC and Mr David Shirley for the trustees; Mr John Knox, QC and Mr Michael Barr for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE NICHOLLS said that it was agreed that after August 1976 the daughter was entitled to an interest in possession in the whole of her share of the fund.

However by paragraph 6(2) of Schedule 5, read in conjunction with other provisions, a liability to the tax arose where a person became entitled to an interest in possession in settled property at a time when no such interest subsisted in that property.

Thus the question was whether the daughter was entitled to an interest in possession in the fund immediately before August 1976. Did she before that date have a present right of present enjoyment of the income or an immediate entitlement which for the time being was absolute so that income as it arose was payable to her?

Had the 1970 appointment taken effect according to its tenor the daughter would then have had an interest in possession by virtue of being entitled to the income of the fund. But it was common ground that the appointment did not take effect that way because the 1964 arrangement held provided the trustees with the power to appoint

"if any child of the daughter attains the age of 21 years or being female attains that age or marries".

Thus the answer to the question turned on the effect of the 1970 appointment having regard to those opening words in clause 3 of the 1964 arrangement.

In short, the trustees said that the appointment gave the daughter a contingent interest in the fund and the trustees were obliged to pay to her (being an adult) the income under section 31 of the Trustee Act 1925. That obligation, they said, gave her a present right to the enjoyment of the income. Thus when her interest vested in possession in August 1976 no charge to the tax arose as paragraph 6(2) did not then apply.

The Crown's case was that the power to appoint created by the 1964 arrangement was a single power over capital and income. That power was exercisable before the August 1976 vesting event occurred, but that having regard to the wording of clause 3 of the arrangement, no appointment could come into effect unless and until the child of the daughter attained 21 or, being female, married.

Until then there was no certainty that the exercise of the appointment would be valid at all because the power was contingent on the August 1976 event occurring.

Thus it was the Crown's argument that since any appointment would be valid only on a child attaining 21, the effect on income of such an appointment before that event occurred was limited to this: the income as it arose became subject to a trust to accumulate it for the appropriate permissible period to wait and see whether the vesting event would occur.

Since, the Crown said, that vesting event might not happen, no appointment of income could have any other immediate effect in particular no appointment could become entitled to a vested interest in such income.

Applying that construction, the

Crown's contention was that the 1970 appointment operated as an appointment and direction to the trustees to hold the income of the fund on trust for the daughter absolutely but so that such appointment should take effect only if any child of hers attained 21. The final step in its argument was that the 1964 arrangement thus construed and the 1970 appointment thus operating, the income pending the vesting event fell to be accumulated and that this accumulation negated the application of section 31 of the Trustee Act 1925.

However, it was inconceivable that the parties to the 1964 arrangement intended the validity of any appointment made by the trustees to be in suspense until a child attained 21 or, being female, married. Clause 3 of the 1964 arrangement was not intended to do more than specify a contingency which had to be fulfilled before any interest appointed under the power created by the clause would become vested.

That construction was consistent with the sole purpose for which the trustees of clause 3 were included: namely to prevent capital being paid out before the vesting event to the daughter or her children to the possible prejudice of Sir Jules Thoro's son and his children.

Accordingly the 1970 appointment operated as an appointment to the daughter of the income contingently on the vesting event occurring and on her then being alive. That appointment was intended to carry the intermediate income of the fund.

Section 31 (1)(ii) of the Trustee Act applied to that intermediate income so that the daughter became entitled to that income and as such was entitled to an interest in possession in the whole of the fund in question prior to August 1976. Hence no liability to the tax arose on the date when the child attained 21.

Solicitors: Linklaters & Paines; Solicitor of Linklaters & Paines.

Third-party inducements inadmissible

Regina v Longstaff

If the police gave orally or otherwise a message to a third person to convey to a defendant, that had to be treated in the same way as if it had been given directly by the police to the defendant. Likewise, if a confession was obtained from a defendant by hope of advantage or fear of prejudice, it did not become any the less inadmissible because it was made to a person not in authority. If the person in authority held out the threat or promise, a confession obtained thereby was likely to be inadmissible to whomsoever it might be made.

Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, so stated in the Court of Appeal (Criminal Division), sitting with Mr Justice Mustill and Mr Justice Otton on June 7, when giving a reserved judgment dismissing appeals by Louis Longstaff and John Longstaff against their convictions for robbery at Durham Crown Court on February 14, 1983.

Solicitors: Rayner, D Wolfe; Clifford Harris.

Civil servants' dismissal claims go ahead

Hughes v Department of Health and Social Security
Coy v Same
Department of the Environment v Jarnell

Before Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Slade and Lord Justice Parker
[Judgment delivered May 24]

The Court of Appeal in test cases considered the question whether three former civil servants who, following changes in policy announced in 1981, had been compulsorily retired in 1982 at ages 60 and 65 had the right to make complaints of unfair dismissal to industrial tribunals.

The court in reserved judgments, the Master of the Rolls dissenting, allowed appeals by Mr Gwilym Michael Hughes and Mr William Coy from decisions of the Employment Appeal Tribunal on May 23, 1983 (*The Times* May 25, 1983) and September 12, 1983 (*The Times* September 12, 1983) (1984) ICR 309) who allowed appeals by the Department of Health and Social Security and held that industrial tribunals had no jurisdiction to hear their claims for unfair dismissal.

An appeal by the Department of the Environment against the appeal tribunal's decision on November 4, 1983, allowing an appeal by Mr George Edward Jarnell from an industrial tribunal who had held that he did not have jurisdiction to hear his claim for unfair dismissal was dismissed.

The departments were given leave to appeal to the House of Lords.

Mr J. Melville Williams, QC, and Mr John Hendy for Mr Hughes and Mr Jarnell; Mr J. Melville Williams, QC, and Mr Stephen Rubin for Mr Coy; Mr Simon D. Brown and Mr David Blum for the departments.

LORD JUSTICE SLADE said that all three appeals raised substantially similar issues concerning former civil servants, the claimants, who, following changes of Civil Service policy announced in 1981, were compulsorily retired in 1982 at an age greater than 60 but less than 65.

The departments submitted that the claimants were precluded by section 64(1)(b) of the Employment Protection (Consolidation) Act 1978 which provided: "...section 54 (right of employee not to be unfairly dismissed) does not apply to the dismissal of an employee ... if the employee ... (b) on or before the effective date of termination attained the age which, in the undertaking in which he was employed, was the normal retiring age for an employee holding the position which he held, or, if a woman, attained the age of 60."

In each of the three cases the industrial tribunal had heard the question relating to section 64(1)(b) as a preliminary issue which turned on "the normal retiring age" of the claimant. In the cases of Mr Hughes and Mr Coy the industrial tribunal found in favour of the claimant on the ground that his normal retiring age was 65 and went on to hold that he had been unfairly dismissed. In the case of Mr Jarnell, the tribunal held that his "normal retiring age" was 60 and dismissed his complaint.

The decision of all three tribunals were given before the decision of the House of Lords in *Waite v Government Communications Headquarters* (*The Times* July 23, 1983; [1983] 2 AC 714).

The Employment Appeal Tribunal had allowed the departments' appeals in the cases of Mr Hughes and Mr Coy, the latter appeal being allowed after the *Waite* decision. The appeal tribunal had allowed Mr Jarnell's appeal and remitted the case for a rehearing to the industrial tribunal.

In *Waite's* case, Lord Fraser of Tullybelton, with whose speech the rest of their Lordships concurred, stated the relevant law at pp 723 G-724 D.

His Lordship derived the following principles from that passage:

(1) Where there was a contractual retiring age applicable to all, or nearly all, the employees holding the same position as the claimant employee, there was a rebuttable presumption that the contractual retiring age was the "normal retiring age" for the group.

(2) The presumption could however be rebutted by evidence that there was in practice some higher age at which employees were regularly retired and which they would have reasonably have come to regard as their normal retiring age.

(3) The proper test was to ascertain what would be the reasonable expectation or understanding of the claimant at the relevant time.

(4) If the evidence merely showed that at the relevant time employees holding such positions retired at a variety of ages, and that the contractual retiring age had been abandoned as the normal retiring age, section 64(1)(b) would not operate so as to preclude a man from making his application at any age lower than 65.

In *Waite's* case it was common ground that the conditions of employment applicable to the appellant from and after the time he became an established Civil Servant were those contained in the Civil Service Code, amplified in some respects by the departmental policy of his employing department (719H - 720A). That appeared to be common ground in respect of each of the present claimants.

His Lordship considered the facts in the case of Mr Hughes who by letter of September 28, 1981, was given notice of retirement on March 31, 1982; and in the case of Mr Coy who by letter of November 10, 1981, was given notice of retirement on May 2, 1982.

The *Waite* decision made it necessary first to consider in each case the "contractual retiring age" of a typical hypothetical member of the relevant group (720H - 721A). A rebuttable presumption that that was the normal retiring age for the group could then arise.

However, in accordance with the *Waite* guidelines the presumption that the contractual retiring age was the normal retiring age would be displaced if the evidence showed that there was in practice some higher age at which employees holding the position were regularly retired and which they had

reasonably come to regard as their normal retiring age (723H - 724A). In the cases of Mr Hughes and Mr Coy it was necessary to ascertain what would have been the reasonable expectation or understanding of a member of their respective groups in regard to the normal date for retirement (if any) for members of their group as at March 31, 1982, and May 2, 1982, respectively.

The Employment Appeal Tribunal did not have sufficient material to enable them to conclude that the two cases were ruled out by section 54(1) of the 1978 Act.

The appeals of Mr Hughes and Mr Coy should be allowed and their cases remitted for a rehearing on the basis that when the *Waite* principles fell to be applied, the date when the notice of retirement took effect was the date as at which the reasonable expectation or understanding as to "normal retiring age" for an employee holding the position which he held fell to be ascertained for the purpose of section 64(1)(b).

The appeal in the case of Mr Jarnell should be dismissed and the case remitted to the industrial tribunal for a rehearing on the preliminary question of jurisdiction on the same basis *mutatis mutandis* as indicated in the Hughes and Coy appeals.

Lord Justice Parker delivered a concurring judgment.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS, dissenting, said that no one could fail to feel considerable sympathy with the three claimants. When they had entered the Civil Service they had no doubt thought that they had a job "for life" which in practice meant until they attained the age of 65.

It must have been a shock to them to learn in June 1981 and March 1982 that economic circumstances and changed government policies had converted a shortage of Civil Service manpower into a surplus and that they would be retired before reaching the age of 65.

They said that it was still necessary to consider whether

compulsory retirement before the age when they had originally expected to be retired entitled them to complain of unfair dismissal. "All three had technically suffered 'dismissal' within the meaning of section 55 of the 1978 Act and, subject to the special provisions of section 64, were entitled to require an industrial tribunal to consider their claims for unfair dismissal."

The terms of section 64 had been construed by the House of Lords in the *Waite* case in which Lord Fraser said that the true test was to ascertain what would be the reasonable expectation or understanding of employees holding that position at "the relevant time". The court had been asked to define "the relevant time".

What was the normal retiring age, if any, was a question of fact for the industrial tribunal.

Someone in the position of Mr Hughes or Mr Coy would, in his Lordship's judgment, inevitably have concluded that on the relevant date the normal retiring age was in the process of being reduced from 65 to 60 by two stages, namely 61 on March 31/April 1, 1982, and 60 on March 31/April 1, 1983. It followed that Mr Hughes and Mr Coy had reached the then normal retiring age of 60 when their employment ended and section 64 applied.

In Mr Jarnell's case on the relevant date he had reached the normal retiring age for someone in his position.

His Lordship would only add that his Lordship's reference to social policy in *Waite's* case as meaning that a special policy required that there be some common compulsory retiring age applicable to employees in similar positions, that being a requirement to achieve fairness between members in the group.

Solicitors: Robin Thompson & Partners, Birmingham; Lawton, Fawcett Bell Cumming & Co, Leeds; Gasters, Treasury Solicitor.

Single judge must hear vexatious litigant cases

In re Fletcher

The jurisdiction of the High Court to restrain vexatious litigation, on the application of the Attorney General pursuant to section 42 of the Supreme Court Act 1981, was exercisable only by a single judge of the High Court, as provided by section 19(3) of the Act, and where such an order had been made by a Divisional Court it was held, by the Court of Appeal on June 11, to be a nullity.

LORD JUSTICE LAWTON, sitting with Lord Justice Slade and Sir Denys Buckley, said that because of the change in the practice of the courts following the coming into operation of the Supreme Court Act 1981 a question had arisen as to whether a Divisional Court had jurisdiction to adjudicate on a vexatious litigant application.

After the passing of the Vexatious

Actions Act 1896 it was the practice for applications under the Act to be heard by a Divisional Court. But there had never been any rule of court or statutory provision to that effect: it was a matter of practice only.

Accordingly, it followed from the provisions of section 19(3) of the 1981 Act that a Divisional Court constituted by a lord justice and a puisne judge had no jurisdiction to deal with a vexatious litigant application under section 42.

Correction

In *R v Heath Borough Council, Ex parte Li* (*The Times*, June 7) the word "not" was omitted from the conditional phrase in the first part of the first sentence which should have read: "... unless it had been found as a fact that the licence had not been terminated..."

ENTER

[e'ntə] verb/t and i:

to come or go into; become a member of; enrol as a competitor; appear on the stage.

LIFT HERE

FASHION by Suzy Menkes

Slip into something pure and simple

Do English women hide at night behind a barrage of frills because they are frightened of their bodies? In an international fashion world that believes that 'less is more', the elaborate English plumage is a strange species. Piling on the frills and gathering in the folds looks increasingly like a masquerade of concealment. It must be significant that those very English entertainments of masquerade and fancy dress are popular again.

I believe that the elaborate cover-up is not much to do with the English woman's sexuality, but a lot to do with our designers who are hiding their inadequacies under a cascade of frills.

High fashion's look of this summer is a slip of a dress, a silken monument to simplicity. Its only folds are those that drape across the body to reveal or suggest its shape. The most striking dresses are in silky stretch jersey or shimmering viscose, cut like swimsuits with scooped fronts and crossed backs. Underlinings like vests and petticoats make the shapes - brief bodices suspended from shoe-string straps, wrestler curves of fabrics moulded to the backbone, shoulders cut away or sliced off at an angle.

Fabrics, too, have the feel of lingerie, with unlined slipper satin a favourite in boudoir colours like oyster beige, sugar pink, powder blue and aquamarine. From the bedroom also come the finest of linens or gossamer-light silk. The theme of all the dresses is simplicity.

You have to be a good designer to deal in simplicity. No-frills dressing relies not on bodily perfection (although that always helps), but on excellence of cut and fit. A good dress in an expensive fabric should have a seductive line that enhances and flatters, and without it a body-skimming dress looks either ridiculous or tart. The most lovely designer dresses are often cut not close to the body but to its shape, so that the silhouette falls like a shadow. The apparent simplicity is actually a masterpiece of cutting, usually on the bias, sometimes with a dozen different pieces seamed together to make up the fluid surface.

In England, it is often the younger and less established designers who have understood this body language of dressing, although they may be working in cotton jersey rather than luxury silks. I find it ironic that women who invest in something better made and finished, should find themselves part of a designer cover-up.

Bold as Bruce



"I think I know how to flatter and to bring out the best in a woman. That is my strength," says Bruce Oldfield, who last week celebrated his designing success by opening a shop in Beauchamp Place.

Bruce Oldfield believes in the body, which is hardly surprising when you consider that his international clientele includes Joan Collins, Charlotte Rampling, Diana Ross, Bianca Jagger and Joanna Lumley - to name just a handful of the celebrities who have climbed the scruffy stairs to his cramped studio.

Now an elegant area at the back of the shop is set aside for receiving the couture clients who include the Princess of Wales. (Bruce Oldfield's one-shoulder silk evening dress for her started a design trend.)

The significance of the shop is that it is now selling Bruce Oldfield ready-to-wear, a venture he has tried in the past for shops and stores but has now brought under his own control.



"It makes my dresses slightly less elitist," says Bruce, who betrays a slight defensiveness about his luxurious dresses. He was, after all, a Barnardo's boy who worked his way through college (Ravensbourne and St Martin's) to reach his current position as a British couturier fitted in Los Angeles and liked for his warm personality as well as his beautiful dresses.

"I don't really make a design distinction between ready-to-wear and couture," he says. "I can't cut myself off and say this is for the rich woman and this is for the fairly rich woman. The switch point is the intricacy of make and fit."

He approaches design, he says, from technique, "fiddling with the fabric". The results are bold and glamorous - shapely, silk georgette tops lapping the body, slithers of silky jersey or fitted tops and tulip skirts in organza or silk.

The ready-to-wear collection starts at £180, the couture at £650 ever upwards.

"I gave a lecture to 1,000 students and I was asked if I didn't think it immoral to make expensive clothes. But if it's excellence you are after, there's very little of it about in the fashion business."

The latest settings for the diamonds - in black lacquer for a spear-shaped drop earring by Motoko Furukawa of Japan; in grey steel for the UK winner Barbara Tipler; in platinum, gold, silver and copper for a jagged-edged arm-band by Norbert Muellre of Germany.

It is all a far cry from the delicate romance of a Georgian necklace or the fussy opulence of Victorian jewelry, in fact, that comes without the frills.

Small screen vision

"The paintings are the windows," says Karl Lagerfeld (below), as he walks among the lugubrious furniture of his Rome apartment. The oppressive black and white interior is lit by sudden views of the city outside. Then he is among the brilliantly coloured neo-fifties Memphis furnishings of his Monte Carlo home, realigning objects with passion and precision.

Karl Lagerfeld is the subject next Sunday of the first of a new Channel 4 series on Design. So perhaps it is inevitable that the Lagerfeld film is dominated by his multi-faceted personal tastes in furnishings. The witty, irreverent, stylish designer



appears in a dozen different suits and locations and comes out of the programme looking like a strutting pouter. Adulation and applause also have starring roles.

This is frustrating, because the enigmatic Karl Lagerfeld deserves a more acute commentary than the camera caressing the curves of his model girls or a glimpse of him working at a skyscraper - skyline fabric for Chloe or picking furs at Fendi.

Inevitably in the volatile world of fashion, the television programme has been overtaken by events. A footnote to the profile records the change in Lagerfeld's fashion career now that he has left Chloe to set up on his own. But the seismic shift in fashion terms (not discussed in this film) was from the pre-a-porter de luxe he invented to haute couture, when he took up the design directorship of Chanel.

Because fashion is regarded by those outside the business entirely in terms of style, this 55 minute film never discusses seriously the toiles of his trade - the cutting, fitting and stitching which is the actual definition of "couture".

Karl Lagerfeld gives away something of himself (and not just the autographed picture with his new perfume in a nauseating scene in a New York store). "I think it is amusing to be an image maker for other people's business," says this chameleon of designers.

But Lagerfeld also says that "Fashion is what you remember a period for later." This film suggests that Karl Lagerfeld may be remembered more for his style than for the clothes he creates.

Karl Lagerfeld, Fashion Designer, Sunday 17th June, 7.15pm, Channel 4.

Above: Ripple of silk on a deep purple cowl neck dress by Gerry, also yellow, pink, £294 from Regine, 43-44 New Bond Street W1. Diamond, platinum and silk cord choker by Dieter Bretterbauer of Austria.

Left: Petticoat dance dress in aquamarine silk satin with shoe string straps. By Chelsea Design Company, also pink or turquoise from 65 Sydney Street SW3. Diamond, platinum mesh and gold necklace by Marie-Paule Queroy of France. Diamond and gold single ear piece by Herbert Schulin of Austria.

David Hookney Ponchinella design on fabric from Celia Birtwell's shop at 71 Westbourne Park Road, W2.

All jewelry from the De Beers Diamonds-International Awards at the Electrum Gallery, 21 South Molton Street W.1, all this week. (Closes 1.00pm Saturday.)

Make-up by CHERYL for LANCÔME using Les Nouvelles Couleurs with deep mauve violet and bright mauve Jeux d'ombres eye shadow and redcurrant lips.

Hair by MARIO for MICHAEL JOHN

Fashion Assistant CHRISTINE PAINELL

Photographs by VICTOR YUAN

Angela Gore



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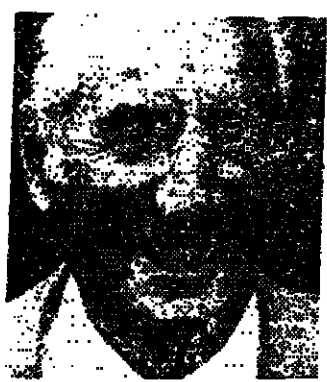
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SPECTRUM



Wimbledon, once the home of English good manners, has become a haven for pampered prima donnas, stretching tennis matches into marathons. So says Fred Perry (left), unlikely Hollywood beau and Britain's last men's champion

The trouble with McEnroe

When I watch the game now there are several big differences from my own playing days which strike me forcibly. I never thought, for example, that I would see the introduction of seats for the players. In the pre-war years you went out to play a match and stayed on your feet until the end of it. If you didn't, it was because you had collapsed.

Matches now last much longer, too. One of the big reasons for my success was that I was fitter than any of the other players, and if I got my opponent on the run he didn't have time to recover by taking a rest. For instance, in the 1936 Wimbledon final against Gottfried von Cramm I won three sets in just 40 minutes. Nowadays players are lucky to complete one set in that time.

The practice of allowing players to sit down for a 90-second break every other game turns a match into a drawn-out business. Not only that, the players are also permitted 30 seconds between every point - and quite a lot of them take it, too, with their time-wasting tactics.

The 1980 US Open final between Bjorn Borg and John McEnroe is regarded as one of the marathons. It was a great match all right, but hardly a "marathon". They played five sets and 54, in a match that lasted four and a half hours. Yet they didn't actually play for that length of time. How so, you may ask. Well, with a 90-second break at every changeover and 27 end changes, that's roughly 40 minutes. In addition to this, in 54 games the players contest a minimum of 220 points, which is four per game - and no match goes like that because

there are deuces and extra points in between. So you get closer to 250 points, which, with 30 seconds between, adds up to 125 minutes. Plus the sitting-down time, 40 minutes, which gives a total of two and three-quarter hours. Take this all into consideration and the actual playing time is greatly reduced. True, the players are out there, just as we were, but they're not on their feet the whole time - as we were.

It was even worse in the 1982 US Open, because the changeover break

Rules were broken to accommodate TV

was extended beyond two minutes so that the television commercials could be fitted in. The fellow who stood by the umpire's chair with a stopwatch wasn't timing the players, he was clocking the commercials! I was sitting with some of the other old-time champions, like Don Budge and Jack Kramer, when we decided to put our own stopwatch on the changeovers. We found they were taking two minutes and twenty-five seconds on average, which means they were breaking the rules in order to accommodate TV, an indication of how that medium runs sport in America.

Quite honestly, I don't know whether to laugh or cry when I watch the start of a tennis match these days. There they are, two young sportsmen, trained to the limit. And what do they do? They play one game - just one game - then they sit down for a rest. It just doesn't make sense to me. They'll be

providing armchairs and lilies next.

Another big change I notice at Wimbledon is among the crowds. In the old days spectators never dreamed of going there without a collar and tie, or a suitable dress, because this was the Holy of Holies. And if a voice was raised, it was to say "Well played" or "Good shot". Now they scream, wave banners and bellow "Attabo, Jimmy" and stronger stuff. I'm all for freedom of speech and nobody could accuse me of snobbery, but this is stretching the point too far. You get your timing from the sound of the ball leaving the racket at the other end and then coming off the ground. If you don't hear the sound, you don't know when to hit. This is why, incidentally, players performing indoors tend to think they're playing better: unless the courts are carpeted, the acoustics are better.

One of the most dramatic changes in recent years, among players as well as spectators, has been, in the matter of discipline and respect. In my time, even if you fervently disagreed with a particular authority (and I often did), you still acknowledged it and obeyed the rules. Present-day players have too much scope for misbehaviour - they are allowed three infractions before they even risk disqualification. Now, that's not much encouragement to self-control. In my opinion, it should be like it is in football - give an offender one warning and then show him the red card. If players knew that sort of punishment was hanging over their heads, there would be fewer arguments. Quite simply, discipline has gone in the



John McEnroe: "... a brilliant player, but it is perfectly possible to play tennis without hawking four-letter words all over the place

game because junior players have not been stamped on at a time when they could have absorbed it and it wouldn't have hurt them. I had my fiery temperament stamped on a few times and I reckon it did me good.

It was made quite clear to me the first time I went on tour in 1930, wearing my national team blazer, that if I didn't toe the line I would be on the next ship home. I certainly wasn't establishment-minded: in fact, I was probably the only British player of my era who ever kicked over the traces at all. But being told in no uncertain terms where I stood served me in very good stead.

When Britain won the Davis Cup four years in succession in the mid-1930s, our non-playing captain H. Roper Barrett was a formidable personality. I can't say we loved him dearly, but we didn't answer him back. If he said, "Breakfast at nine", he didn't mean wander down when it suits you. This was all part of the disciplining process and we accepted it because we desperately wanted to play for Britain. It meant so much to us, but that patriotic feeling doesn't seem to exist any more; a lot of youngsters don't want to play for their country at any price. Look at Yannick Noah. He was unavailable to represent France in the World Team Cup competition in Düsseldorf in 1983 as he had some commitment to play in another tournament. So his national federation responded by suspending him, even though by then he had won the French Open - the first Frenchman to do so for 37 years.

Discipline in tennis took a few steps backwards when that awful vaudeville invention, World Team Tennis, flourished briefly in America: spectators were encouraged to blow horns and shout things like, "Serve a double fault, you bum", and the players attempted to give the matches a little "atmosphere" by staging arguments.

It is perfectly possible to play tennis, without hawking four-letter words all over the place or making obscene gestures. Unfortunately the juniors tend to copy the players who make waves, rather than those who don't, and nowadays the one they tend to copy most is, of course, John McEnroe - a very intelligent man and a brilliant player who suffers from perfectionism. John McEnroe cannot be wrong in public - or so he seems to think. There is evidently some quirk in his character which comes into operation whenever he's publicly accused of being wrong, and this prevents him from grasping what this might mean.

I have some sympathy with him inasmuch as he gets upset - and, rather as I used to do, he tends to play better when he is upset. But I have no sympathy with the resulting tantrums, or his explanations for

them. It seems to me that McEnroe gets out on a limb and doesn't know how to get back. He'd rather crash down than climb down.

Take, for instance, the 1983 Wimbledon and the matter of McEnroe's foot-faults. He knows the rule: the only way you can be foot-faulted today is to have any part of your front foot touching the lines you prepare to serve, which means you perhaps a millimetre, of advantage. McEnroe stands so close to the line that, by the very way he serves, he must touch it or go over it once in a while, in which case he gets called, as he was last year.

Nobody likes being foot-faulted, but most people accept it. Not McEnroe. He would rather keep repeating the fault and go through a

To reprimand a player takes a lot of guts

big argument than go back a couple of inches. If it comes to a confrontation, that's OK by him. Yet in his next match he will stand a couple of inches further back. If he had done that in the first place it would have saved a lot of headaches, but that would have shown him to be in the wrong, to have made a mistake.

A Code of Conduct for tennis was long overdue and I'm glad it is now being implemented, if only half-heartedly. The really big names still know that they are safe from disqualification, because the tournaments need them. So they get fined, and their reaction is merely, "Do you want the money in \$5 or \$20 bills?" There is no point hitting rich people in their wallets.

To reprimand a player publicly takes a lot of guts and the professionals realize that not many officials possess that sort of courage. But it is imperative to remind these players that certain things won't be tolerated, as Jimmy Connors was sharply reminded when he was given a warning for audible obscenity in the Benson & Hedges tournament at Wembley in November 1983. Connors didn't like it one bit, but it was his own fault for swearing out loud, just as it's often his own fault for making suggestive gestures with his racket.

To have said afterwards, as Connors did, that he was being victimized, and to have threatened to pull out of the Grand Prix and just play exhibitions if it didn't stop, was patently absurd. The only way to get big money from exhibitions is by winning the top Grand Prix events. Once a player stops playing in those, the public quickly forgets who he is. I have always said that tennis players are like buses - there will be another one along in a minute!

Behind the scenes in Tinsel Town

My first trip to California in 1931 changed my life for ever. I became an annual visitor to the Pacific Southwest tournament and very much a man-about-Hollywood, where the lively life-style suited me down to the ground. I played the Pacific tournament for five years, losing the 1931 final, winning it the next three times and again getting to the final in the following year. As a three-time winner I was awarded the trophy permanently, but I gave it back to the tournament for perpetual competition.

On arrival in Los Angeles that first time Pat Hughes, the Captain of our team, and I were installed at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel, and we went off to practise as soon as possible. I had never even seen a concrete court before, but it

certainly didn't do my early-ball game any harm. I could swing at the bounce of the ball knowing it would be true: no deviations or wobbles or skids.

Because of the interest and involvement of the Hollywood community with the Pacific Southwest tournament there were exhibition matches, dinners and parties galore during the weekend before the event got under way, and Hughes and I were invited to a dinner at the tennis club on our first night in town. We were told a car would collect us at seven.

When we went to meet the transportation the driver said to me, "This is Mr Hughes's car, sir; yours will be along in a minute." With that, Hughes disappeared and in a moment or two my car purred up; I simply assumed this must be

some grandiose Californian way of impressing visitors.

After leaving the hotel my driver swung to the left, towards the ocean and away from the tennis club. When I mentioned this he said, "I know, sir, but we have to pick somebody up first." On we went to Beverly Hills, stopping in the driveway of a grand colonial mansion. I went to the door, which was opened by a maid, gave her my name and told her we were supposed to be collecting someone for the tennis club dinner. "Come right in," she said.

I stepped inside one of the most beautiful vestibules I have ever seen - a circular hall with a staircase on each side and an ornate balcony at the head of the stairs. I heard a voice say, "Hello," and looked up. There,

in the flesh, stood Jean Harlow, stunning in a black dress and with platinum-blond hair.

It would be fair to say I was dumbfounded, but I wasn't the type to stay senseless for long. I escorted her to the car and she asked where we were going. "To the tennis club for dinner," I told her, at which she wanted to know if I had been to Hollywood before. When I said it was my first visit she wondered, in the nicest way, if I would like her to show me the town.

Only a fool would have said no to that offer, but as I accepted I did manage to point out that I was only an ordinary bloke from England with not much money in my pocket as an amateur tennis player. "Don't worry about that," she said. "Wherever we go I just sign the bill to the Metro Goldwyn Mayer publicity department." "You've made a deal," I told her, and off we went to dinner, followed by a couple of night spots. We never went near the tennis club.

When I got back to the hotel Hughes wanted to know where I had been. I told him, and asked how the tennis dinner had gone. "The same thing happened to me," he said. "Mysterious car journey, big house, butler at the door, a blonde to meet me. She got into the car and said, 'Before we go any further, Mr Hughes, I have some credentials to show you.' And she pulled out a letter from the bank

guaranteeing that she was twenty-one years old and had a million dollars in her own right."

After the snobbery and class divisions of the tennis set-up, and life generally, in England, America in 1931 was like a breath of fresh air. I had never seen anything like its hurry-hurry, move-your-ass, don't-write-a-letter-use-the-phone sort of approach, and it all appealed to me because I'm a fast-acting character myself.

I was dazzled by Hollywood, where I met stars like Mary Pickford and Douglas Fairbanks. Even though we were newly arrived in Hollywood and didn't yet know the movie stars personally, we were invited to Pickford for lunch: that was "the thing to do" - Pickford was a must. It was a beautiful house - they all were - just like walking into fairyland. Everything bright, everything glittering. This was Tinsel Town. Everyone had a magnificent library, usually with a huge gleaming radiogram in one corner, and now upon rows of British Club leatherbound editions which often turned out to be mock-ups with nothing behind. It was all fascinating to me, like the movie set facades.

The stars were always in and out of each others' homes, and eventually when we lived there, they were in and out of ours. You soon discovered Randolph Scott in the kitchen, or Marlene Dietrich in the garden, sunning

herself, it was open house really. Later on, when Vines and I owned the Beverly Hills Tennis Club, we got to know everybody well. Ben Lyon and Bebe Daniels would invite us over for drinks, or throw a party for us, and we soon became close friends. David Niven and Errol Flynn became familiar faces, and Ben and Bebe would invite me to stay at their Malibu beach home in Santa Monica whenever I had an off-tennis weekend. They also owned a smaller place next door, which eventually became the home of Marlene Dietrich, but which was also the beach retreat of Cary Grant and Randolph Scott before they were well known. That house on the beach was quite a place. The guest room where I always stayed had a bathroom to end all bathrooms. The walls, the ceiling, the floor and even the toilet were all inlaid with tiny little mirrors like crazy paving. I'd have a shave in there, and I could see 600,000 other guys - all doing exactly the same thing.

I don't think I ever "went Hollywood" though. I think I got dragged into it really, because of owning the tennis club later on. But at that stage of my life, it was all pretty impressive. To see these people from the big screen and actually be involved with them, from inside and behind the scenes, was unbelievable.

Fred Perry, *An Autobiography*, is published on June 14 by Stanley Paul, price £8.95.



Perry in Hollywood: the champion talks to Betty Davis at a preview party. "At that stage, it was all impressive"

TOMORROW

How television and money have changed the gentlemanly game

moreover... Miles Kington

Although after 10 days in Spain my Spanish was coming back fast, the only person there I really understood well was a man with a cleft palate.

He lives on the cliff face at Ronda, Ronda, like its Welsh near namesake, is famous for its valley, which divides in half the 500-foot high sheer cliff on which the town stands, and if you can visualize somewhere like Chester coming right to the edge of Beachy Head, but surrounded by some Grampians instead of the sea, you begin to get the idea. If you can further visualize a man with a cleft palate and a vegetable garden living halfway down Beachy Head, then we're almost there.

The Ronda valley is spanned by a stone bridge 40ft across and 500ft up. The only time I ever saw my father on the Clifton Suspension Bridge he walked straight down the middle, preferring the risk of being run over to falling off, and I think I must have inherited his gift for vertigo, as I found myself walking from new Ronda to old Ronda across the bridge, among the cars. It's not that I'm afraid I'm going to fall off, just that I have this subconscious desire to jump off and fly like a bird.

"Let's take this path down the cliff," said Caroline, pointing to a track which led into mid-air. By the time I had

disagreed she had already disappeared down it, so I followed and caught her up opposite a gate bearing a sign: "Prohibido El Paso".

"Roughly translated", I said, "that means that walkers are advised to turn back here for fear of being tempted to launch themselves into space." Before my plan could take root, the little man with the cleft palate appeared on the other side of the gate and smilingly asked me if the señora with the camera would care to come through the gate and down his garden so that she could get a magnificent view of the bridge and the town. Amazed, I understood every word he said. This was because his cleft palate forced him to speak very slowly so that his fellow-Spaniards could understand him. As a result, he was the only person I met in Spain who spoke Spanish at the same speed as me.

His garden, which slopes rapidly to the edge of the void, grows lettuce, artichokes, almond trees and a small mad dog, tied up. I remember all this because I had a most detailed horticultural conversation with him in cleft Spanish. I wasn't sure, you see, whether he was just a nice old man getting lonely in his garden or a notorious assassin who lured travellers to the edge and

pushed them over, descending later to remove their pestas and cameras. So while Caroline leant on the brink and snapped away at the truly remarkable view of Ronda, I held him in debate, tensing myself for the moment when he would try to push her over.

It never came. Instead, I learnt that he had lived in this little house for 60 years, had been born there in fact. I learnt all about the best time to plant artichokes, and why. I learnt that nobody had ever fallen off the top of Ronda cliffs, but that plenty of people had jumped. No accidents, many suicides, he said. Why? *Ensen loco*, he said, tapping his head. Nonsense, I thought - they all succumbed to a desire to fly. Not only did he speak the clearest Spanish I ever heard, he was less afraid of heights than any man I ever met.

He seemed sorry to see us go, and waved till we were out of sight. Later, from the bridge, we looked down on his house and garden stuck to the cliff like a house martin's nest, with the old man a mere dot in it, and I realised how close I had come to achieving flight. Still, at least I had learnt the Spanish word for artichoke and I used it proudly that very night in the restaurant, when ordering vegetables.

The waiter hadn't the faintest

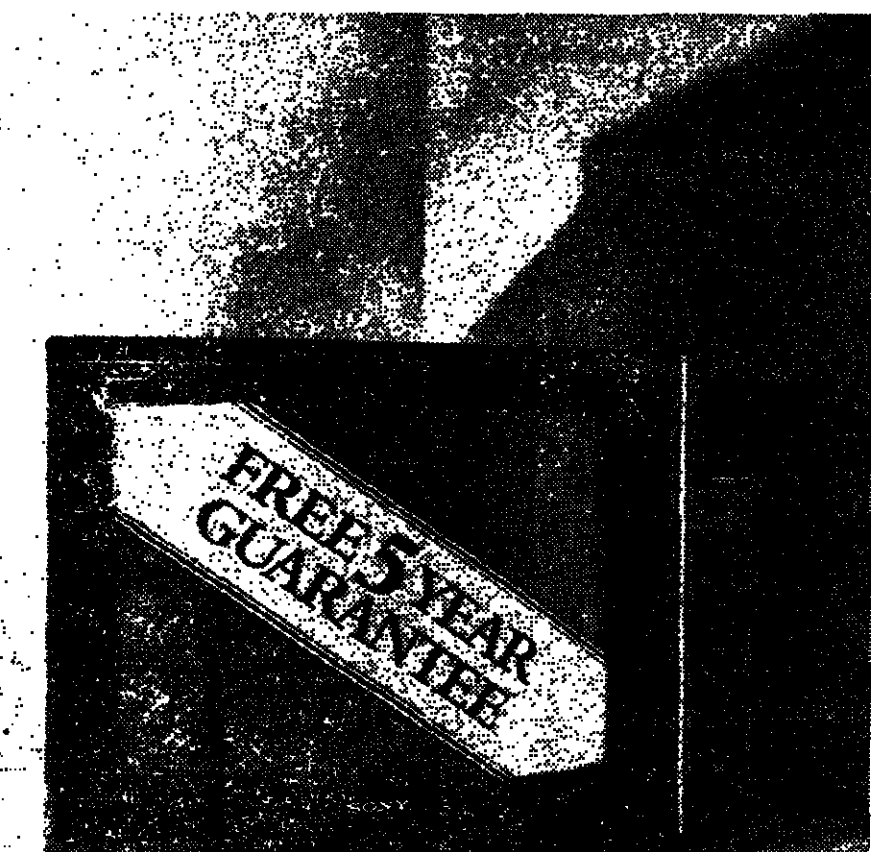
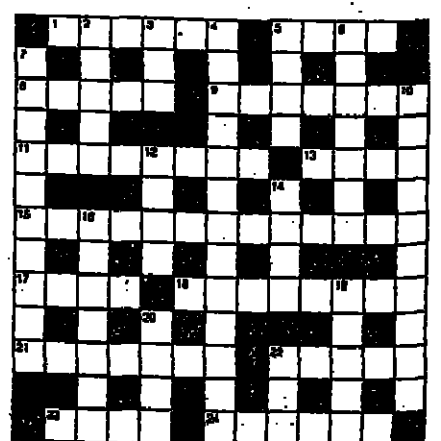
idea what I was talking about. "I'm not surprised," said Caroline. "You're speaking the word with a cleft palate."

The next day we visited la Cueva de Pileta, a deep cave reaching 500 metres into the

hillsides, full of pre-historic paintings, bats, amazing lime stone formations and stone-age camps. I recommend this cavern wholeheartedly. It's impossible to throw yourself off it.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 365)

- ACROSS
1 Used to no avail (6)
2 Newton child (5)
3 SAC Nebraska HQ (5)
4 Ruler (7)
5 Supervisor (8)
6 Rare shade (4)
7 Games spirit (13)
8 Always (4)
9 Salad onion (8)
10 E African language (7)
11 Existence (5)
12 Jester (4)
13 Suppose (6)
14 Cognizant (5)
15 Mid afternoon meal (3)
16 Plot-resolving god (4,5,7)
17 Corps (4)
18 Of Britain (7)
19 Great happiness (10)
20 Drive (3,2,1,2)
21 Badger burrow (4)
22 Indigo shrub (4)
23 Wild marjoram (7)
19 Characteristic vocabulary (5)
20 Tablet (4)
21 Old car (3)
- SOLUTION TO No 364
ACROSS: 1 Shred 4 Morocco 8 Rains 9 Deadpan 10 Bel canto 11 Gait 13 Buffer zones 17 Rock 18 Banister 21 Tribune 22 Abbot 23 Canteen 24 Senior
DOWN: 1 Scribe 2 Rebel 3 Disaffa 4 Mediterranean 5 Read 6 Cupcake 7 Ornate 12 Mohicans 14 Uncia 15 Arcle 16 Writer 19 Throat 20 Jute

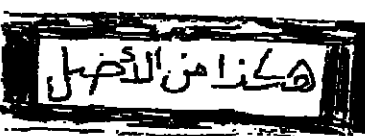


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Whatever will they think of next?



The cover-up that kills

THE FOOD SCANDAL

Few now doubt the fatal connexion between eating western food and suffering from western diseases. Yet this important message is not reaching the public. Geoffrey Cannon exposes the conspiracy of silence keeping Britain unhealthy

The paper that follows is in every sense a collaborative national effort that seeks to identify what is wrong with the diet of the British population as a whole, including the average, typical diet, and how this can be remedied. If industry, including both the agriculture and food industries, recognizes at this stage that a consensus is emerging among expert medical groups, and that dietary changes are being advocated for the general population, they can make plans in good time. The NACNE (National Advisory Council on Nutrition Education) report, September 1983.

The food we eat is the main single cause of the diseases from which most of us eventually suffer and die. To be blunt, western food is a killer. The food we eat greatly increases our chances of suffering and dying from heart disease, stroke, and cancer—the three illnesses which jointly kill two out of every three people in Britain.

In the United States, Australia, Canada, Scandinavia, and other countries, the western food thesis has been the subject of a great number of expert reports, all broadly in agreement. It has been accepted internationally by the medical profession and by governments. In the US, where the national diet is not significantly different from the British, the latest findings about food health and disease are announced urgently at press conferences, in language everybody can understand, and become major stories in newspapers and on television.

This spring I attended a massive heart disease prevention conference in Florida, during which the national magazines *Discover* and *Time* both had cover stories on heart disease prevention. The US department of health announced that food was indeed a main cause of cancer—perhaps more so than smoking. It was impressive to hear a TV news anchor state that the main official line on cancer was prevention. A recent US poll showed that two-thirds of the population have changed their eating habits for health reasons. In the last 15 years, the rate of death from heart disease in the US (and Australia) has decreased by more than 25 per cent.

In Britain, this change would represent the saving of 40,000 deaths a year, but nothing much is happening. Professor Geoffrey Rose chaired a World Health Organization expert committee whose report on heart disease prevention was published in 1982. In the *British Medical Journal*, he wrote: "In Britain, we are failing to prevent a preventable disease". Why? And why are we so ignorant or confused about the evident relationship between western food and western disease?

The practice of medicine, is one problem. Doctors are trained to see the body as a kit of parts. Like car mechanics, their work is typically confined to malfunction. Doctors who work in the community, committed to prevention, have effectively been downgraded in the past 10 and 20 years.

Nutrition has officially been seen as a medical backwater for 50 years now; so students are given only fragments of information about food and disease. General practitioners, overwhelmed by work, may become little more than retail outlets for the drug industry. In hospitals the power and the glory is in technology.

Professor Raymond Hoffenberg, President of the Royal College of Physicians, is committed to public health, and tells me that the teaching of general practice is being transformed now. In support, Dr Denis Burkitt, who has done more than any other living doctor to spread the word about fibre in the diet, tells me that the medical profession is moving towards prevention.

I hope these two distinguished doctors are proved right. Certainly, key leaders of the medical profession in Britain accept the western food thesis.

They have the opportunity to read new research and to travel abroad; and they accept the western food thesis. More remarkably, they are speaking out in public on food and health in language similar to that used by doctors for the past 15 years on the other big public health issue of smoking and health.

The present operation of the European Community Common Agricultural Policy in relation to dairy products and sugar is directly opposed to the food and health policy the United Kingdom should be aiming for. That is a conclusion of the Canterbury Report on heart disease prevention, published on April 17 on the occasion of an important conference held at the Royal College of Physicians. It was immediately quoted with approval by the *British Medical Journal* in a leading article.

I asked Sir Douglas Black, President of the British Medical Association, for his view on heart disease prevention. "Milk is a major killer," he told me. "It is nonsense to give milk to children in schools. And what would he do if he were minister of health? 'Clobber the dairy industry'—or at least refrain from pampering it."

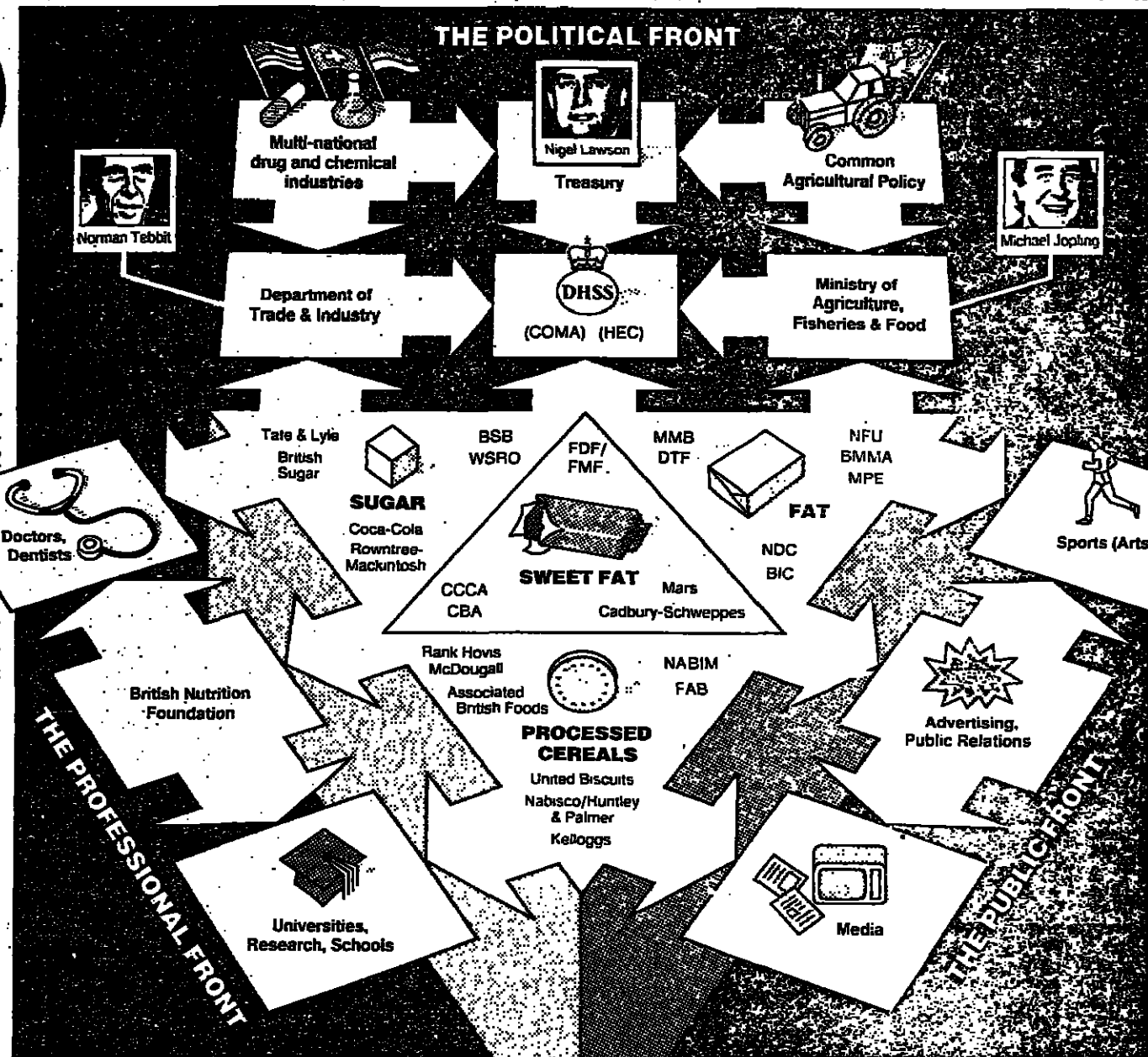
Sir Richard Doll, who jointly established the link between smoking and lung cancer, is now on record with the view that western food may be a bigger cause of all cancers than smoking. And last year *The Lancet* caused consternation in the Department of Health (DHSS) by serializing long extracts from the NACNE report on food and health at a time when DHSS officials, under pressure from the food industry, were stalling publication of the report.

The NACNE report, the first British expert report to set out the western food thesis as a whole, was blocked from April 1981 to September 1983. It was issued finally only after *The Lancet* serialization had given it the status of a *sanzidat* document, and it has never been endorsed by the DHSS. Six years earlier, in 1977, the McGovern report *Dietary Goals for the United States* whose conclusions were rather more radical, was published by the US government.

The NACNE story, described to me by one London-based professor of nutrition as "our own Watergate", scandalized the media, and alerted a wide public to the issue of food and health. Television, radio, newspapers and magazine now regularly repeat the NACNE recommendations—that we will do well to eat a lot more wholemeal bread and cereal, fresh vegetables and fruit, and to halve our consumption of animal and dairy fats, processed sugars, and salt. But the report was blocked.

Britain became the richest nation on earth, spurred by the profits of the slave trade, whose chief non-human commodity was sugar. One hundred years ago sugar became cheaper than nutritious food, and the British sweet tooth was born. Mrs Beeton devised confections of meat, fat and sugar for the new middle class, popularizing a fashion of cookery with no real tradition which is still perpetuated by cookery books as part of our national heritage.

This century the amount of harmful fat eaten in Britain has increased. Animals were penned, the car was invented, and so both animals and the people that ate them got fatter. Margarine was devised as a cheap substitute for butter and was later made by a process of "hydrogenation" which converts harmless vegetable oils into harmful saturated fats. Some margarines now, like



Flora, remain high in polyunsaturates. More recently, the European Common Agricultural Policy has created massive surpluses of milk, butter and cheese (the butter mountain is now one million tons) and thus made fat—and sugar too—artificially profitable to produce. On average, every British man, woman and child eats 100 lb of processed sugars every year. Now that salt is not needed to preserve food, the amount of salt eaten has dropped, and with it the rate of deaths from stroke—but we still eat perhaps three to five times more salt than is good for us.

Sunblist, Mother's Pride, and such-like bread, is palatable only spread with fat (butter or margarine) and sugar (as in jam) or salt (as in Marmite). Ignorance about food and health has been compounded by confusion. We have been brought up to believe that the more protein we eat the better; that starches are fattening; and that the way to health is calorie-cutting. All these notions are wrong, or at least outdated. If anything, adults eat too much protein; besides which, foods of animal origin, such as meat, cheese and milk, that are high in protein are much higher in fat.

Chemists classify starches and sugars together as carbohydrates; but for health we will do best to eat much more wholemeal bread and potatoes, both of which are full of nourishment and, because

bulky and satisfying, not fattening. It is the processed sugars, together with fat and the "sweet fat" confections, that are fattening, partly because they are concentrated and very dense in calories. As for calorie-cutting, the only reliable way to stay lean throughout life is to take more exercise, and eat well. Faced with the NACNE thesis, Tim Fortescue, the former MP who at the time was director-general of the Food and Drink Industries Council, the food industry body that negotiates codes of practice with the DHSS, said to me, "Any chap can produce an expert to contradict whatever any other expert has said." "Today's consensus view could be contradicted, not tomorrow, but certainly the day after." Dr Alan Robertson, who after working for the chemical industry became chairman of the food industry-funded British Nutrition Foundation, said to me of NACNE, "Yet again, here is the flavour of the month".

Representatives of the food industry whose business it is to protect the commercial interests of fat, sugar, sweet fat, salt, and processed cereals, are bound to dismiss the message of the NACNE report as a fad,

despite the fact that it is repeated by expert committees all over the world. The fact is, that there always has been, and always will be, a collision between wealth and health, as far as food is concerned. This is because the most profitable commodities are cheap, uniform, stable, compact, and easy to make, pack and transport. Fresh fruit and vegetables are bulky and seasonal; they bruise, and they go bad. The qualities that make them good food make them a bad commodity. Wholemeal flour is an unsatisfactory commodity because it goes rancid, rots and is liable to infestation: that is to say, it supports life. Rats and weevils don't like flour much, which is rather sensible of them. Sugar is ideal as a food commodity. Tate and Lyle announced profits of £57.3m in 1983, up 43 per cent from 1982. On average we eat 70lb of sugar a year "hidden" in processed food; the reason being that sugar remains cheaper than the food it replaces.

In Britain the food processors are uniquely powerful, and work systematically to influence public, professional and political opinion, as shown in the diagram on this page, and the accompanying text which gives a very brief sketch of what goes on in Westminster, Whitehall, and all the appropriate places. Britain is a centralized society in which a remarkable proportion of decisions are

taken behind closed doors. The chief medical officer at the DHSS is advised on medical aspects of food policy by a standing committee of experts whose acronym is Coma (apt, was say). Members of Coma committees have to sign the Official Secrets Act. The Health Education Council is funded by the DHSS with an annual budget of about £9.5m a year. Saatchi and Saatchi, the advertising agency, devised an HEC press campaign recently which included, as one in a series, an advertisement stating that sugar is empty of calories and that brown sugar is no different from white sugar. After exchanges of view with the DHSS, the advertisement was withdrawn. Saatchi are now the agency for British Sugar, and are mounting a £2m campaign to spread the word that sugar is natural and wholesome. In 1983 the sugar, chocolate, and confectionery industry spent £91.8m on advertising.

How can we as individuals find out how to eat for health? And how can the food we eat in Britain be changed for the better on a national basis? That is the subject of an article in *The Times* tomorrow.

How the food industry gets its own way

British food processors operate on three fronts to protect their interests: public, professional and political. In the diagram the industry is represented by the big triangle. This is divided into four smaller triangles, roughly corresponding to four businesses: sugar, fat, sweet fat, and processed cereal (and salt). In Britain some food processors and their representatives have extraordinary influence, not countered (as in America) by pressure from consumer groups.

● Sugar is top left. Tate and Lyle (T&L) and British Sugar (BS) process almost all Britain's sugar. British, and world, sugar is represented by the British Sugar Bureau (director-general, Michael Shersby MP) and the World Sugar Research Organization. Two firms making massive use of sugar are Coca-Cola, and Rowntree Macintosh.

● Fat is top right. Meat and dairy farmers are powerfully represented in Whitehall by the National Farmers' Union (NFU). In the last 10 years British farmers have been subsidized by an estimated £63,000 million. Marketing and public relations organizations of farmers and distributors include the Milk Marketing Board (MMB), the National Dairy Council (NDC), the Bacon and Meat Marketing Association (BMMA), the Meat Promotion Executive (MPE), and the Dairy Trades Federation (DTF). Doctors who say animal fat is harmless are given headlines in the *Butter Information Council* (BIC) newspaper sent to "opinion leaders".

● Sweet fat is the middle triangle. The Food and Drink Industries Council (FDIC) had as its director-general former MP Tim Fortescue. Last month Falklands war hero Major-General Sir Jeremy Moore took over a reformed body now called the Food Manufacturers' Federation (FMF) and the Food and Drink Federation (FDF) to represent the trade in Whitehall and Brussels. Cadbury-Schweppes and Mars use much sugar and fat in their products. Lobby organizations are the Cakes and Biscuits Alliance (CBA) and the Cocoa, Chocolate and Confectionery Alliance (CCA) which, among its many activities, funded a dental conference this April.

● Processed cereal products are depleted of fibre, vitamins, minerals and essential fats. They are represented by Rank Hovis McDougall (RHM) and Associated British Foods (ABF) who between them bake 86 per cent of the factory-made white bread in Britain. RHM also has 75 per cent of the British table salt business. United Biscuits and Nabisco/Huntley & Palmer make much use of highly processed flour as well as fat and sugar in biscuits. Kellogg's have half the market for processed breakfast cereals, and also use much sugar and salt. The lobby organization is the National Association of British & Irish Millers (NABIM).

whose publicity outfit is FAB (Flour Advisory Bureau). ● The public front. The food industry now spends over £425 million a year on advertising. The industries whose foods are most under attack for health reasons tend to spend the most money on their image. The Butter Information Council has a £3 million annual budget and invites the press to medical conferences; it also displays industry, sugar also puts money into sport. British Sugar has sponsored British sportswomen; Mars Bars put £200,000 into the London marathon. The arts will follow.

● The professional front. The British Nutrition Foundation is funded by the food industry. Originally it was sponsored mainly by RHM and T&L. The BNF's target groups are "opinion leaders" and "educators". It also seeks contacts with the media. Whitehall and Westminster. Currently it has achieved an association with the Royal College of Physicians. The industry also works directly with the medical profession: the BSB, WSRG, CCA and BIC each lobby doctors and dentists; Mars has funded dental research on vaccines. The industry supplies charts and other literature to schools. University departments of nutrition and food science (for example at Queen Elizabeth College, London, and at Reading) are supported by the industry, as is scientific research. RHM, Cadbury-Schweppes, Kellogg's, Tate & Lyle and Rowntree Macintosh are present on campus. Senior scientists move between industry, the Civil Service and universities.

● The political front. The more highly food is processed, the more it contributes to the gross national product through "added value". So the industry has a friend in the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI). The DTI is also influenced by multinational drug and chemical industries with interests in processed food. The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food further pressed to do so by the European Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) whose subsidies favour fat and sugar production. The multinationals and the CAP both influence the Treasury, which in turn presses the Department of Health (DHSS). The DHSS is pressed on all sides and from within; civil servants representing the social services (the SS in DHSS) point out that healthy and long-lived citizens will increase the number of old-age pensions. The NHS costs £15.5 billion, and generates no revenue. The Health Education Council (HEC) is funded by the DHSS; its task is limited to publicizing policies on health, including on food, approved by the government of the day. The most recent DHSS publication, *Eating for Health*, says "What we eat is not necessarily the most important key to good health—it is an aspect which is often misunderstood or neglected." Not by the British food processing industry.

Julia Owen explains the problems of bringing up twins in the Soviet Union

Double trouble in Moscow

"Never mind", clucked the old babushkas, peering into the pram. "It'll be two nice boys next time". Pushing small identical twins round Moscow is like walking an exotic pedigree dog—everybody stops to talk to you, and everybody has advice to offer. The twins' smart western buggy and elegant snowsuits set us apart immediately as a curiosity. Old women in headscarves are full of commiseration: "How many days were you in labour?" is a frequent question prompted by Soviet memories of a long and agonized childbirth without anaesthetic. "Where did you buy your double buggy?" and "Can I buy it off you?" being the others.

The logistics of transporting tiny twins across Europe with all their baggage pales into insignificance compared to the

problems modern Russians face in bringing up a clutch of offspring simultaneously. More washing machines are being produced now but they frequently break down and, as the Soviet press points out, servicing and spare parts are far from adequate. Formula baby milk and specially prepared infant foods are not regularly available. A mother of two in a neighbouring Russian block is managing to breastfeed her twins, Sasha and Vanya, and plans to do so until they are at least a year old. Breastfeeding for the whole of the first year is common in the Soviet Union, and many mothers continue to do so until the child is two.

Like most foreigners we import all our milk in bulk from Helsinki. The weekly milk train from Finland arrives at Mos-



Twins with mother Julia: the focus of Russian sympathy

cow's Leningrad station. There duty is paid, Soviet storage charges are paid, and the frozen milk cartons which now cost over a pound a litre are ready for collection. A large deep freeze is a lifeline in Moscow. The hardest thing to grasp when planning the exodus from rural England was that Boots would no longer be just around the corner. We had to import

every last jar of baby food, vitamin drops, rusks, cotton wool balls, plastic pants, cat nets and cots. We bought a new British machine, but now have to import the washing powder too. Bringing up small children in a tenth floor flat is hard enough in any city but it is doubly difficult when for six months of the year the snow outside piles

higher and higher while temperatures plunge daily to below -15°C. Last winter we stood day after day at the window watching the little thermometer we had brought with us hover around ten degrees below. The wind eventually dropped and we emerged into the bright day sunshine that followed Christmas.

All Russian babies are swaddled and the snowy streets were suddenly full of highly padded grandmothers pushing and pulling seemingly empty prams with a large bulge under the blankets, the whole being giftwrapped with a wide green or pink ribbon (depending on sex) would suddenly heave to reveal a trace of life.

The twins go out too. Whatever they wear is never enough for the babushkas who are deeply suspicious of their Mothercare padded snowsuits and padded sheepskin bags. Russian grandmothers are the conscience of the nation, and we too tread in fear of them. A double consignment of girls is the most awful bad luck, they say in sympathy.

Russian families can have only one try at producing a son, the resources simply not being there to bring up two children. And without grandmother, of

course, it would be impossible. There are day nurseries in the Soviet Union, but they are not quite the success the government envisaged.

Facilities at the local surgery—a collection of polyliners are crowded and inadequate and most of the Russians we know seem to resort to illegal private practices. We can summon doctors from the special diplomatic polyliners, who provide a good service, or better still turn to the doctor resident at the British Embassy. Many Russians rely on folk remedies such as mustard plasters and herb infusions since anti-biotics are in very short supply in Russia.

The most difficult aspect of living in Moscow's small diplomatic press and business community is that it takes about a month to obtain a visa for the Soviet Union. Grandparents, alas, cannot just pop out on a cheap ticket to give you hand.

The one thing we are not short of is toys. Just across the nine lane street we live on there is a branch of Moscow's largest toy store *Dom Igruschi* or the House of Toys, a modern reflection of Lenin's dictum that in Russia, children are the only privileged class.

Bill Wilson is incurable. He's not unhelpable.

Bill Wilson wanted to be a farmer or a chef. His uncle owned a farm in Kilmarnock where Bill was born. As it happened, Bill became a chef with the BMA. He is softly spoken, and has a warm sense of humour. Some years ago, he suffered a stroke which left him severely paralysed. He came to us at Putney—a long way from his uncle's farm.

But Bill doesn't let things get him down.

He exercises with determination, loves to play chess (though he's short of opponents), goes to museums and occasionally cooks in the patients' kitchen.

For Bill the RHH is home, as it is for some 270 other patients whom we strive, through skilled nursing, therapy and medical treatment, to help achieve as much independence as possible.

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TOMORROW

How to enjoy a good lunch – safely. A guide to eating the healthy way.

THE TIMES DIARY

Pensioned off

Labour's latest Euro vote-winner is somewhat embarrassing to those in the party who believe charity begins at home. The offending item is a give-away Pierre Cardin pen from Labour's Euro-socialist group. Even worse, a further 5,000 cheaper ballpoints emblazoned with the legend, "Socialist Group with Socialists for Jobs, Peace and Freedom", have been imported from Germany. I am told that most are lying in the basement of Transport House.

Ten to the bar

A long-haired youth known only as John left the car in which he lives in Richmond and, armed with his guitar, strolled into the Labour party's Walworth Road HQ. He said he had just the tune for the party's song for Europe contest. Unfortunately, he confessed to knowing nothing about Labour's policy on Europe. Not letting that stand in the way he was given a crash course and led to the recording studio. There he sang a protest-style ballad, pausing occasionally for clarification on the finer points of the party's economic union, terms for withdrawal and the like.

● Norris McWhirter's claim last week that a two-word letter to *The Times* joins the shortest on record has been challenged. A reader tells me that a correspondence about getting letters printed in *The Times* was conclusively terminated a few years ago with a letter of only one word: "Brevity."

Enemy lines

"There can be no doubt the most effective medium of communication is the media," Ken Livingstone declared in *The Guardian* yesterday. It seems the media does not include the *Hornsey Journal*. In the latest edition, next to an apology for GLC abolition by Environment Secretary Patrick Jenkin, is a large blank space headed: "The Livingstone View." The paper's editor, Michael Pearce, told me Livingstone had failed to reply to two letters beseeching him to defend his case. His unwanted reticence is due to the GLC policy of snubbing the following: a dispute with the NUJ which ended 18 months ago. Far from mending fences, Pearce's invitation seems to have jogged Ken's memory. Yesterday the journal was told that from Friday the GLC was banning placement of any ads in the paper.

More anon

Yuri Andropov's death in February has forced Frederick Forsyth to rewrite large chunks of his forthcoming novel, *The Fourth Protocol*. Andropov, described by Forsyth as "a marvellous brooding and malign presence", was to have featured prominently in the book as the Soviet general secretary who plots to bring a far-left Labour government to power in Britain. He has now been replaced, not by Chernenko, but by an anonymous figure referred to only by his title, "You just can't trust these people to stay alive till publication date", says Forsyth.

Fair question

Metropolitan Police "S" District recently held a fair in Bushey, Hertfordshire. The army laid on a skydiving team, the RAF displayed model cockpits, and the King's Own Scottish Borderers played the pipes and drums. Nearly £10,000 was raised for Mencap, Guide Dogs for the Blind, and police and army benevolent funds. Laudable stuff. But not, it seems, to Lord Brockway, the 96-year-old peace campaigner, who tabled a question in the Lords asking whether the Government endorses "this association of the police with armed forces for military propaganda." Peace, man.

● Yesterday I questioned the purpose of a Mountain Rescue Association in Watlington Valley in East Anglia. At the risk of making mountains out of molehills, I now hear there is a similar outfit in Romney Marsh.

Something rotten

Would you buy a used house from Denmark's conservative prime minister, Poul Schlüter? The question is being asked after businessman Bo Brebeol bought Schlüter's villa in north Copenhagen. He did not call in a surveyor - a mistake, since it quickly became clear the house was riddled with rot and damp and plagued by colonies of rats, gnawing through the foundations. Now Brebeol is suing the PM for £30,000 in repairs. After hostile questions in parliament, Schlüter has offered to buy the house back. Brebeol, who for some reason has fallen in love with the place, says he just wants the money. This is not surprising: in the middle of the scandal he mysteriously lost his job as company secretary of a leading - and ultra-conservative - property association.

Beyond doubt

It was no surprise that Ronald Reagan was found guilty of "crimes against humanity" in the mock trial organized by the left-wing group Liberation, prosecuted by Labour peer Lord Gifford and presided over by John Platts-Mills QC, once expelled from the Labour Party for extremism. Indeed, he was adjudged guilty twice. Before Reagan could be defended, an over-zealous co-judge, Annajoy David, blurted out her verdict having heard only the prosecution case.

PHS



Weapons that must be outlawed now

by Richard Luce

On April 18 at the Palais des Nations in Geneva, Vice-President George Bush presented to the 40-nation conference on disarmament a draft treaty for a comprehensive, worldwide ban on chemical weapons. The British Government warmly supported this initiative, in the hope that progress towards early agreement would be achieved. There is an urgent need for it. As recent events in the Gulf war have shown, the need to ban these dreadful weapons has never been more pressing.

Achievement of a total ban on chemical weapons, with effective verification, would be an important step down the road of practical arms control. Today the chemical weapons negotiations resume at Geneva after the Easter break, during which governments will have had time to digest the US draft treaty. We hope a breakthrough can be achieved, but much will depend on the Soviet response.

There are grounds for such a hope. First, there was Soviet acceptance, on February 21, of continuous international inspection at the site of destruction of chemical weapons stocks, an important aspect of verification. Second, on March 2 Mr Chernenko said "now it seems that prerequisites are beginning to ripen for resolving" the question of a "general and complete prohibition" of chemical weapons. Furthermore, on April 18 the Soviet delegate at Geneva reiterated the Soviet commitment to a treaty, stressing its willingness to agree to adequate measures of verification.

The Soviet proposals tabled at the Stockholm conference on disarmament in Europe on May 8 again included the idea of a chemical weapons ban limited to Europe. However, a regional ban on such

easily transported weapons makes no sense. Far from being easier to resolve, the verification problems would become even harder. And why should Europe have priority in benefiting from a chemical weapons ban when all recent cases of their use have been elsewhere?

The negotiations in Geneva have assumed added urgency in recent months. There is a growing imbalance between East and West. The Soviet Union has a massive chemical warfare capability, comprising over 300,000 tons of lethal chemical warfare agents, and the means to deliver them. By contrast, Britain abandoned chemical weapons in the late 1950s, and the US has not manufactured any since 1969. Soviet failure to date to reciprocate western restraint should serve as a warning to those who advocate unilateral gestures.

The other, very topical cause for concern is the evidence of these odious weapons being used in parts of Asia under the control of communist regimes and, most recently, in the war between Iran and Iraq. As Sir Geoffrey Howe said in March, the use of chemical

weapons anywhere in the world deserves the strongest condemnation. The Government's concern led us to extend, on April 12, export controls on certain chemicals which could be used to make chemical weapons.

Our EEC partners have taken similar action, as has the US. We hope others will follow suit. It is deeply regrettable that any country, which signed the 1925 Geneva protocol, banning the use of chemical weapons, should now be flouting its international obligations. But it proves that the protocol, which did not ban manufacture or stockpiling, not provided for verification of compliance, urgently needs to be buttressed by a comprehensive, verifiable ban.

Effective verification is the key, but it is difficult to agree upon. Because of the very nature of the weapons, verification must be prompt and intrusive, for all parties. Soviet reluctance to accept this inescapable fact has been the major stumbling block so far.

For adequate verification there must be routine on-site inspection to ensure that stocks are destroyed,

that chemical weapon manufacturing plants are dismantled, and that civil chemical factories are not used for covert production of chemical weapons. Complementing the routine inspections, there must be provision for procedures to investigate any doubt which may arise about compliance. Without such fact-finding procedures there would be no means of resolving doubt. And doubt breeds uncertainty, destroys confidence and provokes recrimination, which would in turn undermine the treaty.

On February 14 at the disarmament conference I tabled a working paper on challenge inspection, the latest in the series of initiatives by successive British governments designed to achieve a total ban. The aim of this paper was to suggest how challenges should be handled in order to maintain confidence in the treaty. The US draft treaty builds upon these ideas in more detail. The precise way in which such action would be implemented must be the subject of further negotiation at Geneva. But it will clearly be important to ensure that action follows a challenge without delay.

The new US draft treaty should give the negotiators a further impetus to play a leading role. The disarmament conference must now make an energetic and sustained effort to resolve the outstanding problems. If it does so we will be in sight of our goal to banish chemical weapons from the face of the earth. The prize for all of us is enormous. For our part, we will try our hardest to achieve it.

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So who does run Liverpool?

The Militant Tendency may no longer have the headline-grabbing power to embarrass the Labour Party nationally, but it has by no means vanished. The inquiries and expulsions of last year have checked its advance, but left its local roots in place.

The deepest of those roots are in Liverpool, where the city council continues to confront the Government over its budget. Liverpool is the only place where Militant has tasted real power and it is the dominant force within the city's Labour Party. Militant's organization and influence are largely responsible for the council's stance.

The important figures are the most visible. The greatest power is wielded by two men involved in the tendency since it began: Terry Harrison, now a member of the secret 40-strong central committee and vice-president of the Liverpool party, and Tony Mulhearn, a former member of the Militant editorial board, district party president and recently-elected councillor. They are both more influential than the deputy council leader and regular television news star, Derek Hutton.

Militant's organization in Liverpool is impressive. The tendency's work is coordinated from a terraced house in Tuebrook. Certain rooms are barred to all but Militant members. Militant employs seven full-time organizers compared with the Labour Party's one full-time employee - and she is a Militant member in any case. A network of secret branches operates in each of the Liverpool constituencies, running parallel with the official Labour Party organization in the Liverpool Labour Party meeting, the branches meet to go through the agenda and decide their line on each issue.

Liverpool is indeed where Militant began. Its roots can be traced to the 1950s, in the Walton constituency - later to be Eric Heffer's seat - whose party secretary nurtured a small group of Trotskyists in the Labour League of Youth. These youngsters published a small magazine called *Rally*. Its editor was Pat Wall, who 30 years later was to achieve national fame when Michael Foot tried to stop him being Labour candidate for Bradford North. Other Walton young socialists included two members of the Militant



John Hamilton (centre) is officially Labour leader. Derek Hutton (left) is generally accepted as the man in charge, but the real power is wielded by Tony Mulhearn (right) and another Militant.

editorial board who were expelled from the Labour Party last year. Militant editor Peter Taaffe and Keith Dickinson.

In Walton, this group was quite powerful and almost got the party to select their future guru, Ted Grant, as their parliamentary candidate. But in Liverpool as a whole there was little chance of progress against the existing Labour machine. In 1964 Taaffe and Dickinson left Merseyside to start Militant.

For many years Liverpool Labour politics were dominated by right-wing and Catholic caucuses and Labour's political traditions had more in common with Chicago than with a normal British city. In the 1950s the Liverpool party was led by the right-wing Jack Braddock (husband of the formidable Bessie), perhaps Britain's best example of a boss politician. Braddock seemed deliberately to cultivate the Tammany Hall image, always wearing a trolley. He ruled his party through patronage and an elaborate system of caucuses such as the secret "Catholic Action" group.

Jack Braddock died in 1963 and was succeeded as Labour "boss" by Bill Sefton, who had previously been left-wing opponent of Braddock. Once in office though, Sefton largely

carried on with Braddock's policies and political style. The policies of Labour administrations in Liverpool Town Hall were virtually indistinguishable from those of the Conservatives when they held office.

Both parties put their faith in building housing blocks and grandiose inner city motorways. But the voters became disillusioned, and in 1973 Labour was suddenly thrown out and replaced by the "pavement politics" of Trevor Jones, and the Liberals. In opposition, Labour underwent a transformation.

The new Labour group leader, John Hamilton, was modest, mild mannered and amiable. He saw himself as a conciliator, not as a "boss", and he accepted that it was the job of Labour councillors to carry out local Labour policy, not to ignore or reject it. The district party assumed a new role, becoming the dominant partner in its relationship with the council Labour group. Today the district party in Liverpool probably has more power over its councillors than the Labour Party in any other city.

Meanwhile, Militant had been beavering away in the Liverpool wards and constituencies. Their main organizer was a "boiler-maker" and former Young Conservative,

Terry Harrison, who had been involved in *Rally* in Walton. Progress was relatively easy. Braddock and Sefton had left one of the most decrepit Labour parties in the country, with very few members. One district party official later accused Braddock of deliberately keeping membership low to discourage any opposition. One Labour councillor, a Braddock man, had just six members in his ward party, and yet anybody who asked to join, was told the party was "full up". Militant coordinated its members and often employed the same tactics once used by Braddock and his caucus. It took only a handful of Militant members to take control of many wards and constituencies.

Militant's most spectacular advance in Liverpool came in 1981 and 1982 after the Labour Party adopted new rules on the reelection of MPs. Within a few months three right-wing Liverpool MPs, Jimmy Dunne, Eric Ogden and Richard Crawshaw, had defected to the SDP. Militant members were chosen to fight four of the eight Liverpool parliamentary seats.

In the district party, Militant pushed through a policy of no cuts in jobs or services and no rate or rent rises. It was openly and proudly acknowledged that this stand would lead to an inevitable confrontation with the Conservative government if Labour returned to council office. From the outset, Militant knew it could not really lose in any confrontation. Some of the more idealistic members might have hoped Liverpool would trigger a mini-revolution, a dry-run for the real thing. The more realistic knew the advantages were more limited, but considerable. If a compromise deal with the Government looks like a defeat, the minority of Militant councillors will always be able to vote against it, and accuse John Hamilton of betraying the working class. If the council does achieve concessions from Mr Jenkin, we can be sure they will be heralded by Militant as a victory, and a "triumph for socialist ideas".

Michael Crick

Militant, by Michael Crick. Published by Faber and Faber on June 18 at £3.95.

Plus and nonplus

New words for old, by Philip Howard

digified to the stuffy and simple-minded. But these underestimate the attractions of plurals to the advertising industry. Singular is feeble. Numbers mean more, mean better, mean more sales.

Similar examples of what appear to be plural adjectives qualifying singular nouns abound. Take the alarming profession of an explosives expert. This must be an example of an adjective turned into a plural noun and used attributively. I can see why one does not want to refer to an explosive expert, which might be misunderstood. It could mean that this expert in the North Sea herring industry, as it might be, has a very bad temper. And who can blame him? You cannot turn the singular phrase around, "this expert is explosive", without producing

either nonsense, or a different meaning from the one intended.

I should have thought that the meaning of "an explosive expert" would be clear from the context. It is slightly more economical. But perhaps this is another example of the hyperbolic attractions of the plural. The intention may be to underline the fact that this expert is expert not just in one sort of explosive, but in dozens, and indeed all, of the nasty things.

Compare and contrast: the chemicals industry; a cosmetics cream; a plastics bottle. I have not yet spotted an aerosols shavings cream; but I expect to do so any day now. It will be justified on the grounds that the foul and ineffectual froth can be packed in more than one type of

aerosol, and can be used for shaving foam, and at any time of day or night.

The trend towards plurals is not simple. Flux in language seldom is. Take the fashion for abstract nouns such as "leadership" to replace the plural "leaders". Leadership used to be what a Boy Scout had who was promoted to whatever posts were available for those with it. Later in the *curriculum vitae* it was something, along with offbeat qualities, that was needed for a naval rating to be given a commission.

Nowadays, leadership is the vogue word to designate the head boys of the Labour or Tory or Liberal or SD parties. And now the current Miracle Citroën advertisement, in *The Times* and doubtless other lesser organs for such notices, invites you and me to drive the car at our local dealership. They should worry if I take up the invitation. The motive is the same as that for electrics and explosives: to sound bold. But the flux is in the opposite direction.

Roger Scruton

Euro-poll: why you should not vote

That most people are not interested in the elections to the European Parliament, have only the vaguest idea of that parliament's powers and duties, and would not be able to tell a Euro-MP from a speak your weight machine has been lamented as yet another sign of the political ignorance of the British public. In fact, it is the sign of a strong and flourishing culture, which refuses to take this body of paupered mediocrities as seriously as it takes itself. No doubt the Italians, having lost hope for a stable administration, have every reason to believe that they would be better governed from Strasbourg than from Rome. But their case is not ours. The worst thing that could happen to us, after centuries of stable government, is to be ruled from abroad, by a parliament of Social Democrats, Euro-communists, and hysterical radicals, moulded by cranks and republican theories.

Unfortunately, however, the British public's contempt for the European Parliament is not shared by the opinionated classes. Always active, always vociferous, always in search of an opportunity to try out their hate-brained schemes for human improvement, nothing seems to them more likely to bring lasting benefits to mankind than a parliament composed of people entirely like themselves. This is the real source of the popularity of Euro-politics among the radical middle classes.

In the House of Commons such people encounter two important obstacles to their schemes. The first is the British constitution, in which unified sovereignty is wonderfully combined with diversified power. The second is the duty of representation, which obliges members to give up their egomaniacal ambitions and attend to the pension of Mr Higgins, or passport of Mr Patel. Constitution and representation take the fun out of politics, and neutralise some of its power.

Euro-politics, however, is free from those constraints. To the British public the European Parliament is a joke. But to its members it is fun - well paid, irresponsible fun - and with marvellous opportunities for social and political scheming. Only one thing is lacking, and that is power. Without power the European Parliament is a harmless institution, in which second-rate politicians are paid comfortable salaries to stay out of mischief and count themselves kings. But the radical middle class wants power, and will be satisfied with nothing less.

The Italian radical Alisio Spinelli has therefore devised a scheme which will enable him and his kind to enjoy in Strasbourg the power that they could never wield in Rome. This is the treaty to establish the European Union, soon to be voted upon, which would render our loss of sovereignty permanent and irreversible. Some states - Italy included - never had much sover-

eignty to lose. But for the British citizen this treaty will, if signed, finally destroy his political culture by ensuring the centuries-old artefact of allegiance to the Crown.

The treaty sets up a new political entity - the Union of Europe - with "autonomous powers" to achieve monetary, economic, political and fiscal union. It will be a sovereign body, entitled to redistribute the resources and the reserves of the member states, in obedience to the whims of a "Commission" and its president. Once the union is established, member states will lose autonomy in almost every matter from taxation to social welfare. The union's laws will take precedence over national laws, and it will take positive initiatives to break down national barriers.

His aims go far beyond the economic requirements of a "common market". Indeed, they include measures of a profoundly political kind, calculated not to further free exchange, but to stifle it. Thus Article 36 assigns extensive duties to regulate the social policy of member states. It aims to create "Union-wide collective agreements" between trade unions and management, "worker participation" in industry, and "equality between men and women". And if free trade gets in the way, so much the worse for free trade.

Of course, none of this is very well worked out. The half-baked quality of the treaty can be seen by comparing Articles 46 and 47. The first proposes a "homogeneous judicial area", in order to fight international forms of crime, including terrorism. The second insists that "the Union must (Note 'must', not 'will try to') attain within a period of two years... the abolition of personal checks at frontiers." In other words, we must open our frontiers to the terrorist populations of Paris and Rome. This invocation to drop our weapons and fight with symbols is typical of the whole spirit of the treaty. The Chamber of Mediocrities at Strasbourg would rather create ineffective powers against terrorism than leave effective powers in the hands of sovereign bodies other than itself. Indeed, it is impatient with all forms of national sovereignty, and rides rough-shod over every true historical allegiance in pursuit of its dangerous purposes.

If it is allowed to fulfil its ambition, Euro-politics will be the death of Europe. And every vote cast in an election to the European Parliament fuels its illusion of legitimacy. The British response is therefore the right one. For you can be sure that, whoever you vote for, he will believe in the power of the institution to which he aspires. And that is the belief which threatens our independence.

The author is editor of the Salisbury Review

Peter Kellner

40 years on, the trust betrayed

There is a lot to be said against party political broadcasts. They provide second-rate propaganda, third-rate art and fourth-rate sources of information. However, I still find them compelling. They project images of each party's own choosing; for anyone interested in party politics, those images are worth studying with care.

Last week, on the eve of the D-Day anniversary, the Tories tried to hijack the celebrations and portray the invasion as a triumph for Tory values. Over film of landing craft approaching the Normandy beaches, Anthony Quayle said: "Forty years ago tonight our troops were preparing for D-Day. The final liberation of Europe had begun. But even after victory there was more to do..."

Indeed there was, but not the sense that Satchell and Satchell's scriptwriters intended. Had the broadcast wished to convey something of the troops' post-war wishes, they might have quoted the words of Ernest Bevin, Minister of Labour in Churchill's wartime coalition, to the House of Commons shortly after the invasion. He scolded going with Churchill to Portsmouth on June 6 as the troops prepared to embark for Normandy: "They were going off to face this terrific battle with great hearts and great courage."

"The question they put to me when I went through their ranks was: 'Ernie, when we have done this job for you, are we going back on the dole?' Both the Prime Minister and I answered: 'No, you are not'."

Bevin and Churchill meant it, too. Three weeks before D-Day the draft white paper on employment policy reached the War Cabinet. It contained the celebrated statement: "The Government accept as one of their primary aims and responsibilities the maintenance of a high and stable level of employment after the war."

The Treasury then, like Mrs Thatcher's ministers today, viewed such a commitment with alarm. They were more concerned to uphold spurious financial principles than to find work for troops when they were demobbed. The response to the Treasury from the economic section of the War Cabinet is as pertinent now as 40 years ago: "The Treasury has rejected almost all the proposals advanced... with a view to stabilizing demand at a high level... If this view were to prevail, the role of the state in respect of cyclical employment would be essentially passive. This conclusion seems to us unduly pessimistic." Fortunately the Treasury lost; had Thatcherite policies been pursued after 1945, full employment might never have been achieved.

As telling a flavour of the mood of 1944 is conveyed by the recently reprinted issue of *The Times* for

June 7, reporting the D-Day landings. On the back page is a detailed account of ICI's annual shareholders' meeting for that year. As British, American and Canadian troops battled against German machine-gun posts, ICI's chairman, Lord McGowan, was offering this distinctly new view of company-worker relations: "Collective bargaining, inspired by mutual trust, has solved all our difficulties. The high sense of responsibility and breadth of cooperative understanding displayed by our great trade unions is a national asset which no man can measure."

Lord McGowan recalled the bad old days when trade was depressed: "Industry was indisposed, in the absence of any expansionist outlook by the government of the day, to risk expenditure on capital projects, the fruits of which he could not foresee." Under Mrs Thatcher those bad old days have returned.

Public opinion, like that of ICI, was far removed from the laissez-faire notions of the present Government. One of the questions Gallup asked in June 1944 was: "During the changeover from war to peace, should the change be done mainly under government control, or should it be left mainly to private business? No fewer than 68 per cent favoured government control."

In a myriad of other ways, it was a time of optimistic, progressive thinking. For example, Rab Butler introduced his Education Act. The National Health Service and Beveridge's social reforms were being planned. Two months before D-Day the coalition government suffered its only substantial defeat in the Commons when a group of reform-minded Conservatives joined with Labour MPs to demand equal pay for women teachers.

The spirit of Conservative reformers was best captured by Lord Hinchinbrooke who bemoaned "individualist businessmen, financiers and speculators ranging freely in a laissez-faire economy and creeping unnoticed into the fold of Conservatism". He argued that "true Conservative opinion... would wish nothing better than that these men should collect their luggage and depart."

"True Conservatives" might make the same appeal today, but with one addition: the interlopers should take Satchell and Satchell, and their bogus claims on D-Day's memory, away with them.

The rest of us can then ponder how, at a time of radical social reform, the Normandy landings vindicated the great socialist virtues of comradeship, solidarity and well-planned public enterprise.

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FOCUS ON THE FUND

Does the International Monetary Fund deserve to be awarded such a central role in coping with international debt as it has been given by the leaders of the seven nation summit? The decision sounds natural enough, but it is only too consistent with a generalized desire by individual central banks, commercial bankers and governments to shuffle off responsibility for painful decisions - or for avoiding them - on to some other body which is accountable to nobody.

Over the years the IMF has attracted a certain amount of obloquy from debtor nations who object to the conditionality imposed on their loans. However the IMF's record does not suggest that it should be accorded almost plenipotentiary authority in these matters, with governments and bankers luxuriating behind it in the hope that it will make better political decisions about the allocation of credit, and better banking decisions about re-scheduling, than either politicians or bankers can be expected to make on their own.

The IMF was created under the Bretton Woods system to assist changes in exchange rate when the international regime was one of fixed exchange rates. The Bretton Woods system of fixed exchange rates collapsed in the early '70s but the IMF did not collapse with it. Though the need for it diminished in a regime of variable exchange rates, like all good bureaucracies it found a new role so that its international liquidity in 1982 was 350 per cent larger than in 1960. Without any explicit reformulation, it changed its direction from exchange rate maintenance to the prevention of debt crises and bank failures.

It thus remained the bankers' friend, (and look where loose banking has brought us.) There is also an apparent contradiction between the fund's demands for more cash to lend, and its insistence on more conditionality to its loans. That contradiction is easily explained, however, since its effect has been to expand the fund's operations

through a larger budget requiring more staff, and to give that staff more power through the conditionality to its loans which causes so much fretting among borrowers.

Certainly the IMF can claim to have used its lending operations to persuade borrowing countries to reduce their current account deficits. The Fund's managing director, Mr. Jacques de Larosiere told a Brussels audience in February that the current account deficits of developing countries without oil fell from \$110 billion in 1982 to \$67 billion last year. But such a claim conceals a whole range of other questionable aspects to the long-term propriety of the IMF's operations, which are too often geared to the alleviation of short-term, almost transitional, difficulties without regard to the longer term consequences.

The IMF has come to be seen as the lender of last resort. That is not the case. In fact it lends too often to countries which have not exhausted their borrowing capacity in the international capital markets. They merely want subsidised loans and into the bargain, the IMF's certificate of approval which thus helps to insulate them from the real judgment of the market about their credit-worthiness. The IMF, for instance, in last year's Brazilian re-scheduling operations, assumed the power to direct creditor banks to lend yet more money as part of any settlement - "bailing the banks in deeper" as it was described in Washington at the time.

The IMF's role in the whole saga of re-scheduling hitherto does not suggest that it has unarguable credentials to be given a new brief. We need to know more, for instance, about the nature of international insolvency. It is not enough to attribute the crisis entirely to high interest rates. Re-scheduling operations have been managed by the IMF for nearly 30 years. It has built up quite a little cottage industry of client states since 1960. Studies show that once a country wins one reprieve, it tends to come back for more,

without the IMF applying very rigorous analysis to the real causes of a low rate of return on borrowed funds. Twenty-one member countries re-scheduled their debts between 1980 and 1982, eighteen of which were receiving a second reprieve. Moreover only 42 member countries of the IMF seem to account for 78 per cent of all cases of re-scheduling.

And what about conditionality anyway? The idea that a country will be explicitly awarded for pursuing certain policies should not be left to the arbitrary discretion of the IMF. That sets up too many tensions in its membership. It encourages a distortion - based on coercive practices - in the judgment of the market. Bankers should be able to assess the value of lending by the likely specific rate of return, not on the basis of the broad macroeconomic variables - let alone "social criteria" - favoured by the fund, but on strict financial basis for each project which would ultimately give a better test of a country's credit-worthiness, and reduce the amount of statistical cheating. Moreover the market is less vulnerable to the kind of lobbying by debtors' cartels, with the suspicion of political blackmail about it, which has aggravated recent discussions.

The IMF thrives on the philosophy of the immediate post-war period which was based on enlightened economic paternalism. That philosophy still dominates the development schools. Many of the staff of the international financial institutions come from those schools. They tend to share the same demand relationship with the IMF as their compatriots in the bureaucracies of the borrowing countries; but their case should not be taken as read. Before they throw the debt question totally to the IMF, the summit leaders should recall that before 1914 relatively more money was lent and invested across borders than is the case today. There was no IMF to save the system then, but it seemed able to absorb defaults regularly, and without summits.

THAT OTHER SUMMIT

The success of today's discussions in Moscow depends largely on the Romanians. Will they be prepared to moderate their independent line? The leaders of the ten Comecon countries - the USSR, its six East European allies, Mongolia, Cuba and Vietnam - are holding their first summit for thirteen years, and Romania was held responsible of many of the delays and postponements.

The talks last week between President Nicolae Ceausescu and the Soviet leaders produced no indication that he is any closer to accepting Moscow's plans for greater integration of the bloc. Had his reluctance been overcome, words such as "business-like" and "frankness" would not have featured in the Soviet report of his visit, nor would he have received official congratulations on returning to Bucharest for "the firm way he has always promoted Romania's free development".

President Ceausescu imposes the strictest orthodoxy on his compatriots by harshly repressive methods, and professes total loyalty to the USSR in his public statements: yet his independent line in international relations greatly annoys the other communist regimes. The East Germans in particular are upset that Romania intends to compete at Los Angeles while they join in the Soviet boycott. But it is the Romanians' refusal to conform in military matters that causes the greatest strains with Moscow and further complicates economic relations.

Advocating the elimination of both US and Soviet missiles, blaming both East and West for the arms race, and refusing to allow Warsaw Pact manoeuvres on Romanian territory are only some of the public expressions of a deep determination not to surrender national sovereignty despite Soviet demands for further political and economic

integration. Last Tuesday *Pravda* counterpoised two speeches: first President Chernenko attacked Nato as bearing sole responsibility for East-West tensions, then President Ceausescu called for a renewal of disarmament negotiations and the elimination of all nuclear weapons, Western and Soviet. He called also for the Balkans to be freed of all foreign military bases.

The Romanians openly oppose both Nato and Warsaw Pact military manoeuvres, and criticize the Soviet decision to place additional missiles in Czechoslovakia and East Germany as a countermeasure to Nato deployments in Western Europe. When Warsaw Pact neighbours held military exercises earlier this year, in Romania only the Romanian general staff participated - pushing paper, not troops. Romanian soldiers have not joined in manoeuvres abroad since 1967, but have conducted defensive exercises on their own borders.

Bucharest denounced the invasion of Czechoslovakia and occupation of Afghanistan, took an independent line on the Sino-Soviet split and at various times pursued bilateral relations with West Germany, Israel and the United States contrary to the pattern set by Moscow. President Ceausescu has even raised the sensitive subject of the Romanian territories lost to Moscow as a result of the Nazi-Soviet pact.

Twenty years ago the Romanian party newspaper *Scinteia* published a declaration of independence stating that "no-one can decide what is correct for other countries and parties" and emphasizing the importance of national sovereignty in economic relations also. This attitude has repeatedly blocked moves towards greater integration of Comecon, which has expanded its membership to three conti-

nents without yet achieving a convertible currency that would facilitate such apparently simple transactions as using the surplus in trade with one partner to balance a deficit with another.

Prices in bilateral trade supposedly bear some relation to world prices, but are actually adjusted artificially on the basis of a five-year average. The main Soviet exports - oil and gas - could be sold outside the bloc for hard currency, while East European partners supply in return technology generally too poor in quality to find a ready market in the West.

Yet supplying energy on beneficial terms has helped to maintain Soviet political control over Comecon partners. Significantly, Romania is far less dependent on Soviet energy than other member states, but still demands increased shipments of fuel and raw materials at cheaper prices, while arguing that trading partners should pay more for Romanian agricultural products and technology. Bucharest attacks Comecon also for its proliferating bureaucratic organizations.

There is growing concern in the Kremlin that Comecon problems will be greatly exacerbated by difficulties in maintaining Siberian oil output. Strains are already evident. Cuba and Vietnam have military value for Moscow, but drain resources needed to develop the Soviet economy. Poland and Romania cause severe political and economic headaches. Hungary and East Germany have shown too much initiative in pursuing trade with the West.

Comecon continues to expand: it has special agreements with Yugoslavia, Finland, Iraq and Mexico, while Laos, Angola, Mozambique, North Korea, Ethiopia and Nicaragua attend meetings as observers. But real integration remains a distant goal.

Lending to Third World

From Mr Michael Carter
Sir, In your leader, "India's bad example" (May 29) you suggest that increased trade, rather than aid, is the biggest contribution the industrialised world could make to Third World development.

There is clearly a need, as you suggest, for developing countries to adopt improved economic policies, including trade liberalisation and export promotion. The reduction of restrictions on Third World imports by industrialised countries, which you mention briefly, is also of great importance to improved economic growth in the Third World.

Alas, experience suggests that industrialised countries also face domestic political constraints to the adoption of structural reforms in

their economies. But even if they do pursue import liberalisation vigorously, development aid has a key role to play.

As you say, only a small proportion of total investment in developing countries is financed from gross external flows, of which aid is only one source. But the effect of aid extends well beyond the limited transfer of financial resources.

At the World Bank we not only agree with your view that aid should concentrate on fostering policies (including trade liberalisation) that promote growth and prosperity, but we actively support the adoption of such policies through our lending.

However, as Professor Toye pointed out in his article in *The Times* last week (May 24), it must be a collaborative exercise.

Again, if the amounts of aid available are small and shrinking, one cannot realistically expect massive policy reforms in short periods.

Liberalised trade and increased flows of effective aid are both vital for increased prosperity in developing countries, which serves the interests of the industrialised world. To suggest that the two are mutually exclusive is to make the sort of assumption for which you rightly point out, there should be no place in a critical discussion of this important subject.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL CARTER,
Deputy Director,
European Office,
World Bank,
66 Avenue D'Iena,
Paris.
June 1.

Prosecution for acts against terrorists

From Lieutenant-Colonel J. C. Wakerley (ret'd)
Sir, The report in *The Times* on June 6 of Lord Justice Gibson's remarks when acquitting three members of the RUC on a murder charge prompts me to wonder why it has taken so long for the senior judiciary in Northern Ireland to speak out against the many extraordinary and alarming instances of the prosecution of policemen and soldiers for acts performed in the course of carrying out their duties against terrorists.

During my two and a half years as the senior legal adviser on the staff of the GOC at HQ Northern Ireland we argued continually but unsuccessfully against the policy of the Director of Public Prosecution's Office in this type of case to prosecute members of the security forces before the same special jury courts which tried the terrorists, even on evidence which was tenuous in the extreme.

It is a well established principle under our system of law that a person should be brought to trial on a serious criminal charge only where there exists a reasonable chance that he will be convicted.

In the absence of any other convincing reason, it seemed to us in Northern Ireland that soldiers were prosecuted either simply to test whether their constitutional duty had been performed properly or even more disturbingly - in order to demonstrate to the vested interests that the DPP's Office could be relied upon to be even-handed as between the forces of law and order on the

one hand and the enemies of the state on the other. We could have used some judicial support then.

Our proposal at that time to allow the military authorities to exercise jurisdiction over soldiers by convening a court martial to try any case where the evidence justified a prosecution was rejected out of hand by the civil legal establishment, although such procedure was routine where the army was engaged in similar anti-terrorist operations outside the United Kingdom.

However, the most intriguing and important aspect of Lord Justice Gibson's reported remarks is his reference to an order to a policeman or soldier to bring back a dangerous criminal "dead or alive", as though such an order is or should be standard procedure.

This dictum appears to support a much wider interpretation of the right (some would say duty) of the security forces to use firearms in operations against terrorists than has ever been countenanced by the civil courts and civil servants who approved the restrictive rules of engagement set out in the Yellow Card issued to all soldiers in the province.

Is there not a strong case that if such a view had been adopted and pursued with vigour in the worst days of the Troubles a dozen years ago, terrorism would not have taken the hold it did take and still retains? Is there not an even stronger case for introducing that policy now?

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES WAKERLEY,
116 Pall Mall, SW1,
June 7.

Conflicting creeds

From the Reverend A. R. Woolley
Sir, On one page of your issue today (May 26) the Bishop-designate of Durham is credited with the words,

"God is too great and too living to be served by dogmatic rules... on another page Bishop Hanson writes, "Christians today have a duty to beware of fraudulent certainty".

Many things, he says, accepted as certainties in the past, are rejected today as legendary: the sun's standing still at Gibeon to give Joshua time to finish off the Amorites; the human speech of Balaam's platitude ass; the story of Jonah and the whale.

Many things postulated in the last 200 years by academic theologians and bitterly attacked at the time by the traditionalists have been accepted as beyond dispute. In such matters the Church has fought a continuing retreat battle - one may think of Colenso, F. D. Maurice, F. W. Newman (brother of J. H.), Charles Darwin, Benjamin Jowett, Hensley Henson in this country alone.

Ever since the Doctrinal Report of 1938 belief in the Virgin Birth has been optional in the Church of England. There is not and cannot be any certainty about it. Similarly, there is no certainty about the nature of the Resurrection, even

though it certainly happened. Christians believe that Jesus, the Way, the Truth and the Life, is alive today. That is the central affirmation of the Christian and it dates from the first Easter.

God, and the vision of God as seen in Jesus Christ, provide the rule of life for the Church and the source of its spirituality and this matters much more than the manner - the mechanics - of the Birth or the Resurrection: this proves nothing. It is the message, the "Gospel", that matters.

Our Lord himself is reported to have said, if men ignore Moses and the prophets, they will not be convinced "if someone should rise from the dead".

The correspondence columns of the papers certainly reveal a gap between the academic theologians and many in pulpit and pew. The more horrific and stupefying gap is that between the believing Christian and "the man in the street", who rejects a religion based, as he thinks, on "fairy stories" and historic improbabilities.

May Professor Jenkins long live to pursue and purvey the truth at Durham, as his predecessors in that see have done in the past.

I am, Sir, yours sincerely,
A. R. WOOLLEY,
Gillingham Hall,
Near Haleshead,
Essex.
May 26.

Getting at the truth

From Mr Stuart Christie
Sir, Bernard Russell described Hume as "the only one of the great philosophers who wanted to get at the truth. The rest all wanted to get at something else, something that would flatter humanity, or suit their prejudices, or refute their enemies." Roger Scruton's comments on investigative journalism (June 5) establish him firmly among "the rest" as a frivolous opportunist.

I am not, as Roger Scruton so categorically asserted, the author of the *Anarchist Cookbook* and I have as little respect for this book as I do the concept of Leninist "revolutionary morality". As Mr Scruton appears not to have read this publication I should point out that despite its title it neither expresses anarchist ideas nor has it any connection with any anarchist organisation.

It is a product of the 1960s North American counter-culture and is published by a highly commercial and non-anarchist publisher. I find Mr Scruton's linking my name to

the *Anarchist Cookbook* in such a piece of self-serving sophistry as his article, "Miseducation of the press", cynical, offensive and defamatory.

"Miseducation of the press" is a classic example of the politically motivated journalist who shows scant regard for the facts, who is prepared to pervert his victim's arguments out of all realistic shape and enjoys the patronage of an influential newspaper.

Had Mr Scruton bothered to read *The Investigative Researcher's Handbook* more closely he would have learned that those who are genuinely concerned with the "truth" should not allow their prejudices and emotions to guide their thinking and to establish beyond doubt that their conclusions are built upon solid factual foundations before risking their credibility and the peace of mind of the subject of investigation.

Yours faithfully,
STUART CHRISTIE,
RCA Publications,
BCM Refract, WC1,
June 6.

Accounting for pay

From Mr Stephen Cang
Sir, The Comptroller and Auditor General (June 6) usefully amplifies your report (June 5) about auditors' pay. The new system he describes will interest anyone who continues to think that pay should relate to work actually done (performance).

What Sir Gordon does not explain is just how, in his new system, "performance" is determined. This fundamental and inescapable issue is causing a deal of trouble in such fields as the NHS, where it is necessary to know if things are going well relative to cost.

The usual practice in many fields is to so restrict the review of "performance" as to be able to derive it from some "objective facts", such as (in the NHS context) numbers of beds occupied, or numbers of patients treated. Such a practice may be useful, but it leaves wide open the central question of how well someone is performing in the particular circumstances - which is something that can only be judged; and that by someone competent and authorised to make such a judgment.

Performance in this sense commonly goes unreviewed and pay is consequently commonly unrelated to achievement. Could the National Audit Office clarify this crucial element in its system?

Yours faithfully,
STEPHEN CANG,
Brunel University,
Institute of Organisation and Social Studies,
Uxbridge,
Middlesex.
June 7.

Law on picketing

From the Director of the Industrial Society
Sir, Philip Webster's article of June 6 on tightening the law about the behaviour of pickets is most encouraging.

Such support may seem strange from someone who has consistently since the 1971 Act, discouraged legislation which puts obligations on trades unions to control the behaviour of their members. The argument being that such trades union legislation is quite unrealistic today when the members, in the last resort, control the union, not vice versa.

The legislation which is now proposed is to make sure that if individual pickets try to use brute force to achieve their ends the law of this land will prevent them. Such tightening of the law, which you outline, concerning the behaviour of pickets themselves will be good for everyone, including the trades unions.

The recent behaviour that we have seen by individuals has lost the support of the general public of this country for the miners and for the NUM. This is a great shame because the miners, like most sections of the community, are good and sincere people. It is sad that individual behaviour of the most odious kind should persuade people into thinking otherwise.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN GARNETT, Director,
The Industrial Society,
Peter Runge House,
3 Carlton House Terrace, SW1,
June 7.

Keeping in touch with the Continent

From Mr J. L. Jones
Sir, There are times when your leading articles begin to sound as if they have been written by "Outraged" of Tunbridge Wells. Today's ("Effects of a tongue-tied minister", June 7) is a case in point. It was breathtaking in its insularity.

Four years spent promoting British exports in France taught me that the single most important impediment to British firms seeking to break into the French market was lack of knowledge of the French language. It is fortunate for Britain's balance of payments that this fact is well understood by companies such as ICL, BL and the four British clearing banks, all of whom are now generating substantial revenues for Britain in the French market.

That a sound knowledge of the local language is vital in the major West European markets should be self-evident to those who stop for one minute to ask themselves whether they would expect British manufacturers to purchase components or services from businessmen only capable of conversing in Italian, French or German.

I was particularly saddened to note that you, too, had succumbed to the current fashion for computer literacy, a fashion, I might add, with everyone except those most closely involved in computer developments. Have you learned nothing from Apple's recent advertisements in your own columns to the effect that learning a programming language has about as much relevance to today's business executives as learning Morse code?

Does Richard Verrard ("Computer Horizons", June 5) have no effect on your thinking? He wrote: "A prospective employer will be much more impressed by fluency in a foreign language such as French or German... than in the applicant's top score playing space invaders" and added: "Many computer experts... are also concerned that the obsession with computer literacy may dominate the education of the next generation".

A 10 per cent increase in our exports to Western Europe would be worth just under £3.5 bn per annum. This compares with total exports to the developing world of £5.6 bn per annum. It is in Western European languages where our all too scarce language teaching resources should be concentrated. Mr Dunn was quite right.

Yours etc.
J. L. JONES, (Adviser,
International Affairs),
The Stock Exchange, EC2,
June 7.

A treaty for Europe

From Mr Christopher M. Jackson, MEP for East Kent (European Democrat (Conservative))
Sir, Mr Horsfield (May 23) is right to emphasise the importance of the draft treaty put forward by the European Parliament, but he has clearly not read it. It proposes no "unitary supranational state", for on the contrary it is based on the principle of common action, or "subsidiarity", that the Community should only act in common when this is more effective than action by member states individually. It would be a pretty strange state in any case with no army, no police and no embassies.

What the treaty does propose and what President Mitterrand welcomed in principle is stronger moves towards European Union.

Support in the European Parliament for the new draft treaty was based on the widespread view that the Community is not moving fast enough to meet the challenges it faces. Originally internal - to bring an end to Europe's long history of wars - these challenges are today largely external arising from world industrial competition, the need for an effective trade and foreign policy for an EEC which is the world's greatest trading power yet short of raw materials, ensuring European security against the Soviet bloc.

Undoubtedly some of the ideas in the draft treaty are controversial, for example its recommendations concerning the veto. I was among those who voted for the draft as deserving further discussion yet made clear the importance they attach to the continuation of the veto for vital national interests.

Obviously there is all the difference in the world between voting for a final legislative instrument such as the budget and voting as in this case for a draft for further discussion. I hope President Mitterrand's intervention in the European Parliament will ensure it gets it.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER JACKSON,
Medlars,
Oakfield Road,
Sevenoaks,
Kent.
May 29.

Forty years on

From Mr Michael Davis.
Sir, We were obviously gratified to see that your republished D-Day edition of *The Times*, dated June 6, 1944, included one of our advertisements.

It may be of amusement to your readers to know that today we have received a number of enquiries for the properties advertised.

At the sort of prices then prevalent the current market value of any one of those properties advertised on that day 40 years ago would be sufficient to purchase all of them, with a substantial sum remaining.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL DAVIS,
J. L. Mercer & Co.
(Surveyors, Valuers, Estate Agents & Property Managers),
Mercer House,
61-63 Beak Street, W1.
June 6.

From Professor G. P. G. Butler
Sir, Your leader on language acquisition (June 7) raises and begs so many questions that you would now need more space than your target readership probably thinks "it's worth" to discuss them properly.

Perhaps, however, you can find room for this one comment you're a bit hard on Mr Robert Dunn. If he has been reported correctly, and even though he appears to have equated the aim of promoting "trade and understanding" with the wish "to get on in trade and industry", good for him!

He has focused attention on a serious and urgent issue which most of his seniors - anxious to cut costs, at least in education, and themselves happy to continue muddling along as monoglots - would evidently prefer to ignore.

The British are potentially no worse at languages than anyone else. They should not be forced - as you imply they are at present - to choose between learning FORTRAN and conjugating *sprechen*; they should have the opportunity to get to grips with both, partly because there is an increasing need for both.

There is also, of course, a need to understand other cultures, but I fear I have taken too much of your time already...

Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY BUTLER,
University of Bath,
School of Modern Languages,
Claverton Down,
Bath, Avon.
June 7.

From Dr Larrie Martin
Sir, Frank Johnson's article (June 5) on President Reagan's address to the Irish Parliament, the *Dail*, raises yet another "point of disorder". On the front page of the same edition of *The Times* an article by Ian Murray had the headline "British agree to try harder at languages".

Mr Johnson's throwaway remarks referring to the Gaelic names of two of the Irish TDs (MPs) and also to Professor O'Heocha's name, would appear to confirm the need for this effort. Indeed, when translated into Gaelic, Mr Johnson's own name becomes *Pronnisias MacEoin*, which to some people may be even more spectacular than that of *Pronnisias de Rossa, TD*.

Yours faithfully,
LARRY MARTIN,
(Labhras O'Mairtin),
28 Millgate,
Inverkeithing, Angus.
June 8.

Training for industry

From Mr Neville J. Cooper
Sir, Mr King's letter of May 29 contains some interesting facts. However, the conclusions drawn may be a little misleading.

It would perhaps be instructive to know what subjects were studied by the "science" graduates who left Oxford without a job. It is clearly possible that some subjects are being studied for which there is not a strong market demand.

We can confirm that there is certainly a demand for graduates with engineering skills, especially for those able to meet the demands of today's electronics industry.

The numbers quoted for STC are misleading insofar as they are taken out of context. They represent STC's success in getting the people it needs, not the numbers we would necessarily like in any one year.

The high success rate in 1979, for example, owed something to the large number of overseas students and ready availability of work permits. It is true that we took on 218 in 1980 and 271 in 1983 and we could use (and hope to get) about 375 in the present year. At present, we still have about 100 places to fill.

To return to Oxford, we certainly value Oxford graduates and would be delighted to meet anyone with suitable qualifications at the forthcoming "summer fairs" if we missed meeting them earlier this year.

Yours faithfully,
NEVILLE J. COOPER,
Executive Director,
Standard Telephones and Cables, plc,
STC House,
190 Strand, WC2,
June 4.

Fifty years of freedom

From Mr John Brown
Sir, I applaud the sentiments of today's leader, "Dear friends" (June 6) but you err in referring to the fact that Britain, the United States, Australia, New Zealand and Canada are the only five countries in the world who can look back on 50 years of peaceful independent democracy. Sweden? Switzerland? Iceland? Ireland? There may be others I can't at once think of.

Yours etc.
JOHN BROWN,
The Town House,
Leigh,
Worcestershire.
June 6.

Lines from the Prof

From the President of Magdalen College, Oxford
Sir, The limerick with which your correspondent begins his report (June 4) of the election of Peter Levi as Professor of Poetry at Oxford refers to events that took place nearly two decades ago.

To set the record straight, Mr Levi has composed and sent to the college a new verse, which I quote for the amusement of your readers.

The Fellows are justly offended as the car park was merely extended, taking just forty feet; it caused furious heat, but the matter is twenty years ended.

Yours faithfully,
KEITH GRIFFIN, President,
Magdalen College,
Oxford.
June 6.

● Your questions answered: Page 19

COMPUTER HORIZONS

Edited by Matthew May

● Competition - three days left: Page 19

The way to share your computer

By Roger Woolnough

Since ICL introduced its range of 16-bit personal computers earlier this year, it has been trumpeting the benefits of multi-user set-ups. Personal computer users in both large and small businesses want to work in teams, the company believes.

Yet this week ICL is launching a single-user 16-bit PC which Steve Black, manager of small systems, describes as "a key move".

This is not the anomaly it may seem. Mr Black says many people start by buying a machine for their own use, because they think that is what they want. But before long they discover they need a system shared by other people.

It is to cater for this that ICL has produced its new single-user machine. Called the model 16 and costing less than £2000 it acts as an entry point to the company's 16-bit range, and can be upgraded to multi-user applications in the future.

"You can work on your single-user system," Mr Black says, "but when you want to get into the wider game you simply add another terminal. Nothing else changes at all."

As with the company's other 16-bit personal computers - the models 16, 26 and 36 - ICL has not adopted the MS/DOS operating system, popularised by the IBM Personal Computer. Instead it has chosen version 3.1 of Digital Research's Concurrent CP/M.

This operating system allows users to perform several tasks simultaneously on a single micro. Digital Research says that more than 100 computer manufacturers have now contracted for Concurrent 3.1. Not surprisingly, Mr Black claims that it gives his company an advantage over its MS/DOS competition.

This means the user can work with the spreadsheet, word processor and database software most suitable to the particular application. It all runs on the machine at the same time, and the user can switch from one to another at the flick of a key.

"We believe such solutions are going to be good in parts, and where they are not so good people are going to want the best there is."

By adopting this strategy, ICL says it is not cutting off its customers from the vast range of software in PC/DOS. The IBM version of MS/DOS, the Digital Research concurrent product has a feature called PC Mode, which gives it the ability to run PC/DOS-like applications in the majority of cases.

One area where the company does not break ranks with competitors is in its reluctance to quote sales volume, either for the 16-bit machines or for its earlier 8-bit range, which is still being sold.

"We are very satisfied with our personal computer business," is all that Steve Black will say. "It's profitable, and that's not something that everyone in personal computers has been able to claim in the last six months."

How the MoD solved an education crisis

THE WEEK

By Bill Johnstone

A novel method of educating graduate and post-graduate engineers adopted by Cranfield Institute of Technology could provide the blueprint for training the much needed electronic engineers for Britain's information technology projects.

More than £200m will need to be spent using conventional educational methods for the electronic engineers and telecommunications computer specialists to be trained to keep Britain competitive with the high technology grants in the United States and Japan.

About 5,000 such engineers will be needed for the UK to implement its plans to research advanced computer systems while its space, microelectronics and cellular radio communication programmes will require thousands more.

Cranfield, along with a number of other institutions, tendered eighteen months ago for a contract to educate and train graduate and post-graduate engineers for the Ministry of Defence. The institute was selected for the five year project. About 250 engineering graduates will be produced in a three year course and a further 50 will study for postgraduate Masters of Science and Doctors of Philosophy degrees.

Education under contract is a novel concept in Britain and one that a number of academics in the UK would support and one that industrialists might favour more than the

current system. The idea is not new however, to the British educational establishment.

According to Professor John Ashworth, vice chancellor of Salford University, "All sorts of universities in Britain offer deals to foreign governments which are not offered to the UK government".

"Universities still see themselves in medieval terms as equipping the professionals".

There needs to be a dramatic change in how Britain addresses itself to the question of education, particularly in the information technology sectors. Industrial and educational ministers met last Monday to discuss the crisis in information technology



Sir Henry Chilver

training while the National Economic Development Council met two days later to discuss a survey on the educational methods being employed by the Japanese, the Germans and the Americans.

In comparison to those three nations in the high technology sector Britain is lagging. The views of Ashworth are refreshing. Inspired by his experience of Germany he has established six integrated professorships at Salford whose salaries are jointly funded by industry and the institute. The purpose of the scheme is to ensure that these hybrid academic/industrial consultants would be working at the university and in industry, thus ensuring that practising engineers were involved in teaching and producing the engineers that industry wanted.

But the contractual education principal, favoured by Ashworth and now being implemented by Cranfield could revolutionise British industrial education. Sir Henry Chilver, vice chancellor of Cranfield Institute of Technology, is a proponent of the idea and believes that it will be complementary to the current educational

system. It is an idea, claims Chilver that should be given a great deal of thought.

According to Sir Henry: "The Government might arrange some of its educational needs on a contractual basis".

Under the Cranfield/MOD contract about 250 staff will provide four undergraduate engineering courses, four at post graduate level and 1,200 short courses covering everything from management to technical systems. The courses will be run at the Royal Military College of Science at Shrivenham.

Ministers are seriously concerned that Britain may be impaired in its performance in the information technology sector because it lacks the trained personnel. The crisis is becoming more acute each day.

A comparison between the United Kingdom and her major competitors in the high technology sector makes depressing reading. The NEDC report of last week had made that comparison. It concluded: "An adequate supply of professional engineers is considered essential to economic progress."

There are about 8,000 professional engineers produced each year in Britain. Japan produces nearly ten times that number, the United States about 68,000, France 30,000 and Germany 15,000.

The Japanese illustrate that point

vividly, particularly in their 'value added training' of electronic engineers for their information technology industry, one of the vital parts of the country's economy. NTT, the country's telecommunications giant (the Japanese British Telecom) recruits 3,000 electronic graduates a year - more than the entire output of the UK.

The NEDC report highlighted Britain's plight. Says the report: "In Germany, employers bear 80 per cent of the cost of apprentice training... and expenditure on adult training has accelerated during the recession."

"In Japan, the bulk of university and junior college students are in private education. Japanese employers accept that they are responsible for financing skill training and, in many cases, the equivalent of technician and professional level training. In the US a substantial amount of initial vocational educational expenditure falls on state high school and community college budgets, but in 1981 more than 11 million workers participated in education and training sponsored or provided by their employers."

There is an onus on industry to provide funding but it must not replace the existing structure but enhance it. The Cranfield blueprint could show us the way and ensure that Britain will be counted among the leaders of the electronics revolution.

More at the top take on PCs

by Ian Hugo

Over the past eighteen months there has been a large increase in the number of senior executives using personal computers or computer terminals, said Professor Michael Treacy, at last week's conference on information management in Brussels.

The increase in senior executives with their hands on computers in the US has gone from five per cent two years ago to around 50 per cent today. The majority of these are not chief executives but managers immediately below the board. A common reason given for their use is the desire for a better quantitative basis for strategic decision.

Whether the chief executive should use a computer is still a controversial question. Many authorities (and chief executives) feel that it is not appropriate for their jobs to be stuck behind a computer terminal.

Professor Treacy is known for his classic case study of Ben Heinenman, President of Northwest Industries, who spends 30 hours a week on the computer and claims to have saved \$200m on one decision alone (not to build a steel plant) that would not have been possible without the strategic models he had built on his machine. Various circumstances make Heinenman's position exceptional but the trend is increasingly to follow his example. Professor Treacy cited chief executives at Hughes Aircraft, Proctor and Gamble, and the Bank of Montreal.

Although the cost of personal computers or terminals (the trend is towards PCs) is low, the cost of the databases of information which executives typically need to access to in large companies can be dramatically high, approaching \$150,000 for a single strategic application, with a similar annual operational cost to keep the information up-to-date.

The annual cost of the information base used by Ben Heinenman is three million dollars.

This trend is in spite of the currently inadequate state of software to support executive use of these systems. The software that has a reasonably user-friendly interface for senior executives, such as Lotus-1-2-3 and Visicalc, lacks the database capabilities required by senior executives and the database software is generally insufficiently user-friendly.

Software: why we are losing out

by Martin Hayman

Some of the country's most useful and productive software cannot be bought and sold on the open market - and as a result, the British software industry is losing out.

Much of the computing power in Britain is in the hands of local authorities. During the 1970s local officials forged links through their professional associations and developed an informal software exchange. But as pressure on budgets has increased, computing departments have had to start charging each other for installing and maintaining software and some are now selling to commercial firms at home and abroad. The result is a burgeoning grey area between public accountability and commercial marketing.

Some of the best software has been hired off into the private sector to assure its future. The MOSS system, designed for road-building by three local authority engineers and which has applications in other areas such as mining and airfield construction, went private last autumn and is this month to launch itself commercially. TARA, a roads-management system initially funded by Oxfordshire and Gloucestershire, will soon be marketed through private consulting engineers by franchise to commercial customers.

Mikorate, a job-estimating system initially designed to manage councils' direct-labour, has just freed itself from Cornwall County Council to be marketed by Aramis Software. Dorset has its own micro computer section which sells its DEKE inquiry system to private as well as public customers. So far 36 systems are installed, at a cost of £10,000 each. Dorset's senior assistant county treasurer, Reg Watts, points out that DEKE is expected to

generate about £330,000 in sales, which in the end will benefit Dorset ratepayers.

The rules which govern commercial transactions by local authorities are contained in the Local Authority (Goods & Services) Act 1970, which stipulates that they may sell only their surplus goods and services.

This is the quandary faced by the MOSS consortium in 1982 when it found that it had more customers for its software than it could service.

By 1982 MOSS had 80 users worldwide. Servicing had become a major problem: development work was needed for new applications in mining, airfields and water demanded by MOSS users. But cash limits on local authorities meant it was difficult for MOSS even to replace existing, overstretched support staff. The solution lay in detaching MOSS from its local authority ownership by a management buy-out.

Ironically, the money to finance the new private outfit came from the Government's Small Firms Loan Guarantee Scheme. "We are much more effective now in servicing our customers and we can concentrate on development and work with the latest computer equipment," says Mr Crane. "We're giving a much better service." MOSS can now actively market its system overseas, to Hong Kong, Canada and the US and it is in use in over 200 major civil engineering projects across the world. Its clients include British Airways, British Rail and Shell. But there is a downside to moving into the private sector: "As soon as you go outside, there's more pressure because you must give a service. MOSS had got too big for us to cope with it - unless the counties had supplied the staff to do it," says Mr Crane.

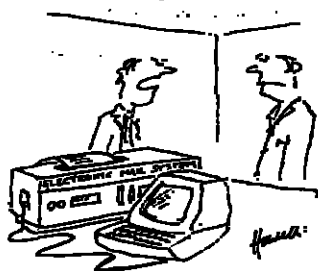
COMPUTER BRIEFING

New deal for ICL and Fujitsu

ICL and Fujitsu have decided to collaborate more closely on hardware development, and to explore the possibility of collaborating on a two-way basis in other technical areas.

This was announced at a joint ceremony in Tokyo when the two companies signed a new agreement extending the collaboration arrangements they initiated three years ago, until 1991.

The 1981 initiative, which was due to end in 1983, gave ICL access to Fujitsu's advanced hardware technology for the British company's new generation of mainframe computers to be launched over the next 18 months. The new agreement covers the development of subsequent systems to be designed by ICL, and will be underpinned by the development and supply of certain products from Fujitsu.



"All we've received so far is a bill from the company who installed it."

Connecting it up

British Telecom has announced that it is developing a "quiet line" technique which allows a subscriber's telephone line to be used for computer data transmissions when the line is not being used for telephone calls. When a call is in progress, data awaiting transmission is stored in a computer memory.

The service will employ a "quiet line" technique which allows a subscriber's telephone line to be used for computer data transmissions when the line is not being used for telephone calls. When a call is in progress, data awaiting transmission is stored in a computer memory.

Tracing phone calls

Nelio Jose Nocolai, a Brazilian telecommunications engineer, has invented the Bina, which he claims is able to trace crank calls over the telephone and can be installed in offices and homes.

The device automatically indicates the number of the caller, even before the person receiving the call has removed the phone from the hook. The number appears in an electronic display panel in figures measuring 2cm by 1cm. The device can be furnished with room for as many as 15 numbers.

A new model can also register the time and the number of the last 10 calls received. The Bina operates through a parallel connection to the telephone line although it is completely independent of the phone. It is manufactured by Sonintel - Sociedade Nacional de Industria de Telecomunicacoes, Brasilia (DF).

UK Events

IBM User Show, Wembley Complex, June 12-14 Computer Fair, Earls Court, London, June 14-17 Compex North, Belle Vue, Manchester, June 18-21 National Conference and Exhibition on Computers in Personnel Royal Lancaster Hotel, London, June 28-29 Networks '84, Wembley Complex, July 3-5 PC User Show, Novotel Hotel, London, July 3-5 Microtrade '84, Barbican, London, July 4-8 Artificial Intelligence for Society Conference, Brighton Polytechnic, July 8-9 Electron & BBC Micro User Show, Alexandra Palace, London, July 19-22

Overseas

International Computer Show for Office, Home, Hobby, Cologne, Germany, June 14-17 National Computer Conference and Exhibition, Las Vegas, USA, July 9-12 Compiled by Personal Computer News.

Hubot takes the lead in the primitive robot race

By Chris Rowley, New York

Hubot the Robot was unveiled last month when a full-page advertisement in *The New York Times* announced its arrival on the market.

Hubot is of course a primitive robot, and at \$495 is not very cheap, but does have impressive features. The 44cm high, three-wheeled module is topped off with a screen connected to Hubot's onboard 128K Ram microcomputer with full keyboard, twin disc drives, Atari game ports, expansion slots and home entertainment features such as an AM/FM stereo cassette deck with graphic equalizer.

So Hubot is programmable and entertaining, and can even roll around your living room with a drinks tray. Hubot has no arms however and the sensory system is fairly primitive, but this is the first advertised, affordable house robot and a dramatic advance over previous efforts.

Hubot's advent will doubtless heat up the robot builders' race now going on around the US as more of the key components for a successful, affordable, home robot become available, including arms, wheel assemblies, cheap disc drives, dynamic RAM and eventually, of course, laser disks and visual memory retention.

Several experimental commercial machines are already in production, like the TOPO II which has sold out its initial edition of 500 machines.

Americans have teetered back and forth since the beginning on the question of whether robots will be a good or bad thing. While many upper income people would welcome one of their own, for security, company, therapy and who knows what else, the sight of Fujitsu programmable sheet metal work stations banging out Toyota bodyshells does not bring out the awe-struck, respectful attitudes reported from Japan.

Americans are uneasy about robots. America's society is distinctly unlike homogeneous Japan, and some predict that wide scale automation will simply intensify the polarization of America between the fabulously well off and the abysmally poor.

However, although American industry invented the robot arm technology now perfected by the Japanese, it seems rather more interested in selling robots than employing them itself. The domestic robot builders chalked up an industry wide loss of 49 per cent last year on sales of \$150m. That's rather less than half Commodore's \$326m revenue for the first quarter of 1984.

US companies have installed



Hubot - a \$2,500 home robot

only 10,000 industrial robots, half of them in the car industry, and are increasingly turning to deals with the big Japanese manufacturers instead of buying American robots. Indeed this trend is so worrying that Walter Weisch, president of profitable Probot Robotics and of the Robot Institute of America, says: "We're in danger of losing the infant robotics industry before it comes off the bottle."

There are about 250 Japanese robot makers, and recently their domestic sales have begun to suffer, leading many to predict a massive export drive in traditional Japanese style. The 70-odd US robot companies could be reduced to a handful by aggressive price cutting and heavy losses.

Optimists note that although the Japanese have refined the Unimation robot arm technology first purchased by Kawasaki Heavy Industries in 1967 they have done little to advance the science of robotics. They point to the heavy American research effort in artificial intelligence and visual sensor systems, plus being the cheerful pioneers of the personal robot industry.

They note that the successful personal robot will be a marvel of software as much as of hardware and that upper income Americans will provide an ideal market for the early, rather expensive house "droids".

"There will be a 5 per cent household market penetration by 1990", says Jean Michel Gabet, a Silicon Valley consultant. Should that be remotely true than a brand new multi-billion dollar industry will have risen up from such modest

beginnings as Hubot the Robot or the efforts of the enthusiasts at the Albuquerque, New Mexico, First International Personal Robot Congress.

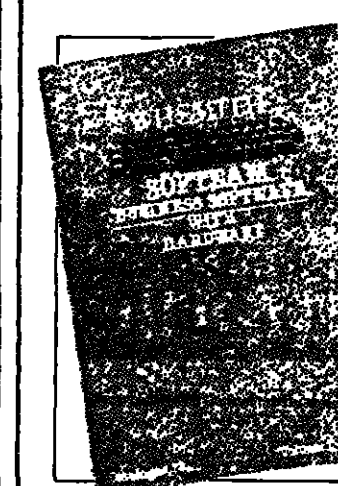
The optimists were out in force in Albuquerque, where 300 "robot professionals" gathered for three days of seminars and workshops. Many visitors compared the rather jolly atmosphere of the show with early microcomputer conventions eight or nine years ago.

To reward the home robot building fraternity there were the first "Golden Droids" awards.

HENRY from Bruce Taylor of Tucson, Arizona, won the "Most Entertaining" award and was judged to be a very complete robot since it had some speech recognition ability, in addition to speech itself, plus the ability to grip objects with either arm. A 40 inch tall semi-transparent cylinder, HENRY could also roll around and was fully programmable.

However these are still early days and to keep things in perspective we should note that the judges awarded the "Most Useful" Golden Droid to EZ MOWER, a beautiful automatic lawn mower with remote control.

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ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND JAPAN'S COMPUTER CHALLENGE TO THE WORLD

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Edward A. Feigenbaum & Pamela McCorduck

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'Essential reading for anyone concerned with computers in Britain.'
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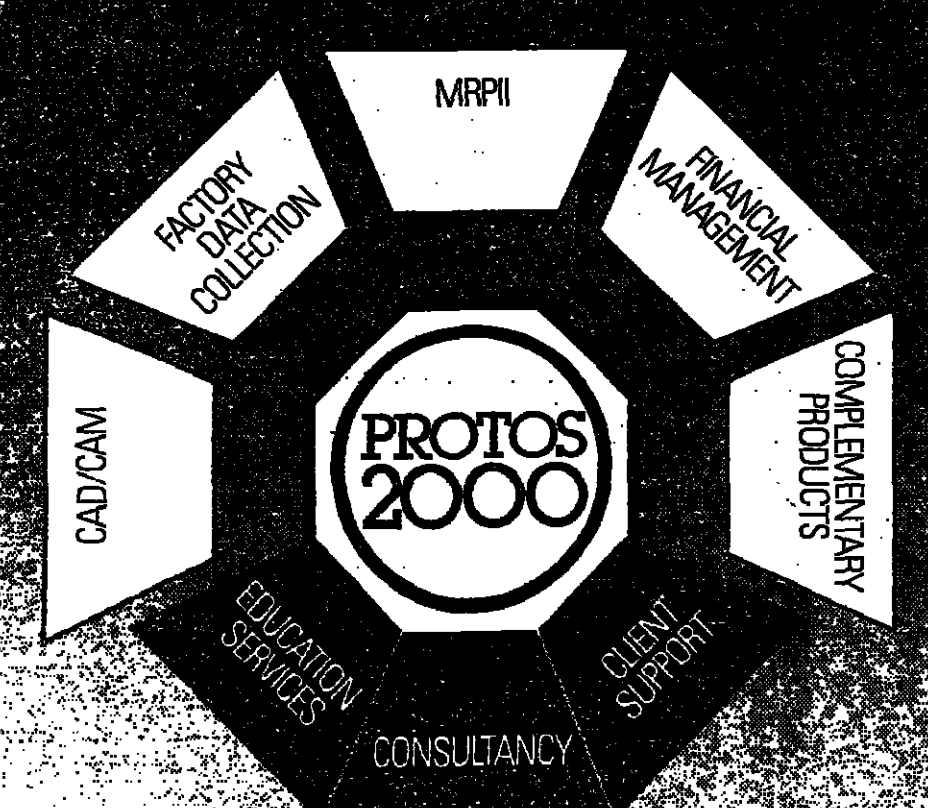
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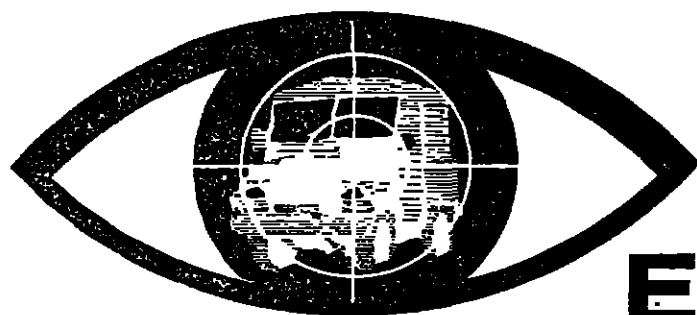
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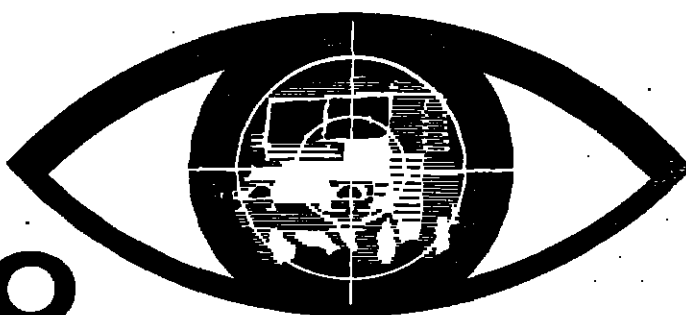
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READING circa 20k

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If you want to know more about this grass roots challenge, please phone John Timms on 0222 821 238 or write to him, in strictest confidence, quoting reference (T), at Room 543, Brunel House, Cardiff.

هنا من الأخبار

A recent survey by Occupational Services (based at Aston Science Park) revealed that employers prefer recruiting arts and science graduates into their computer departments rather than specialist computer scientists. Nonetheless students who have trained in computer science are quickly snapped up particularly those from business-orientated courses.

"I believe that graduates from 'vocational' computer science degree courses find it easier to adapt to working life," said Dr Burgess, head of computer studies at Sunderland Polytechnic, where its course is directed towards meeting the needs of industry.

All polytechnic computer science degree courses are required by the Council for National Academic Awards to have a sandwich element and this inevitably gives a vocational flavour to the courses. Nonetheless there are a number of institutions - such as Huddersfield, North Staffs, Plymouth, Bristol and North East London Polytechnics together with Glasgow College of Technology and Edinburgh's Napier College of Commerce and Technology - which have won reputations for preparing students for rapid entry into management careers.

These developments, however, are not limited to the polytechnics. Two of the country's leading technological universities - University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology and Brunel - have also gone down this path in the knowledge that industry wants such people.

The poly that produces the pros

Edward Fennell

JOB SCENE

Proof of this is that students at UMIST and elsewhere on the vocational courses actually learn COBOL ("for some reason it's anathema to pure computer scientists to know any computer languages") and not much value was placed on possession of Mathematics at A level.

The thrust of the vocational courses is directed constantly at the practical application of information technology. As Professor Aspinall, of UMIST, said: "We're concerned with what you do as a consultant when your client looks you in the eyes, tell you their problem and ask you to come up with a solution," and although UMIST is not running a sandwich course there are plenty of practical projects to help students prepare for that kind of confrontation.

To run these courses, however, it needs academic staff who themselves have solid experience of DP work in commerce and industry. And that is where problems are arising.

"Such is the demand for these experts from the industry that few can be tempted away into academic life - especially at the current salary levels," said Professor Aspinall.

The polytechnics had had the same experience. "Some of our 21 and 22-year-old graduates are going out and earning £8,000-£9,000 in their first jobs," said Dr Burgess at Sunderland, "and there were a couple of Bristol graduates who got over £10,000. That compares favourably with our own lecturers' salaries."

Seen from the vantage point of the National Computing Centre, it appears that while the vocational courses are producing graduates who are well-regarded by employers it didn't mean that their academic computer science colleagues were not also in demand.

"They attract different parts of the computer market," said George Penny. "Certainly amongst the users - people like the NHS, Sainsbury's and so on - the vocational degree person will be an attractive and interesting prospect."

The conflict between the 'academic' and the 'vocational' is a persistent theme in higher education. Maybe the fact that it has now emerged in computing is a sign that the subject has come of age.

Workshop: the answer to all your questions

Q. Is it not better to buy a micro which can have several simultaneous users on it than separate machines for each user?

A. There is no clear-cut way of making a choice between sharing out a computer between users and giving each user his own system. One matter which must be taken into account is the effect of a failure on the work in an office.

If a machine serving four people is out of action, then all four of those employees are held up in their working life. There are also fairly clear cases where a group of staff share information and this points towards a common hub system linking what they each do. In effect you are installing a miniature version of the mainframe.

The special virtues of a personal computer can be seen most obviously when a particular set of distinct problems is the province of a particular person to deal with.

If the value of sorting out those problems is high enough to the whole enterprise then dedicating a whole machine to this function is obviously worth while. Computers are judged just like other business investments, not on their costs, but on the value they provide to crucial portions of the organization. The biggest drawback of relating

Today sees the launch of Work Shop - a new regular feature in which Hedley Vorseley will answer questions on any aspect of computers in business and personal use. If you have a question you would like answered in these pages then address them to Work Shop, Computer Horizons, The Times, PO Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London, WC1X 8EZ. We regret no personal replies can be given.

a single machine to a single person is that there may be nobody else who understands how to do the job when holidays arrive.

Care must be taken to see that this situation is catered for and that key responsibilities are shared out. The auditors will advise on some of these matters to prevent unauthorised financial transactions taking place.

Q. Is it true that the use of word processors alters the writing methods used by people?

A. There is a lot of evidence that the use of word processing systems creates a change in the habits of authors. But it must be realised that most short letters tend to be produced in the same way. The major change generally is seen in project developments since these usually entail lengthier reports at the end of a project and considerable material gathering while the project is underway.

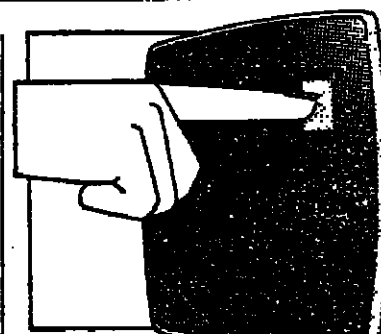
The changes that are evident from experience are most dramatic when personal use of a word processor capability (generally based on a very cheap machine) is made available to each participant in a project.

This means in many cases that home use is made of a micro for the project duration. Once the original effort has been made to put words down via a keyboard, it is frequently found that much more detailed notes are available to the project leaders, merely because the dictation bottleneck is no longer there.

There are signs in some groups that the members of such a project start by feeling inhibited at the lack of style which appears from direct keyboards of words. The evidence is that this anxiety reduces if the motivation to carry out the project is good enough.

Q. Small businesses must use the smaller private branch telephone exchanges. Is there any likelihood that these smaller products will help to link the computing systems used in such a business?

A. Yes, there is a strong likelihood that the needs of the small business will receive a great deal of attention from suppliers of small telephone switches (PABXs) in the near



THE TIMES
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the ability of micros to connect to larger computers and other distant peripherals both within organisations and to public services.

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● ADDING PERIPHERALS - the addition of such extras as printers, larger capacity disc drives and plotters.

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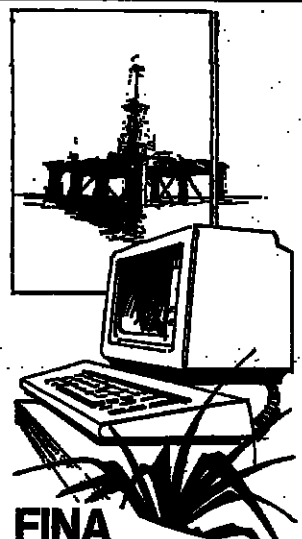
Address _____

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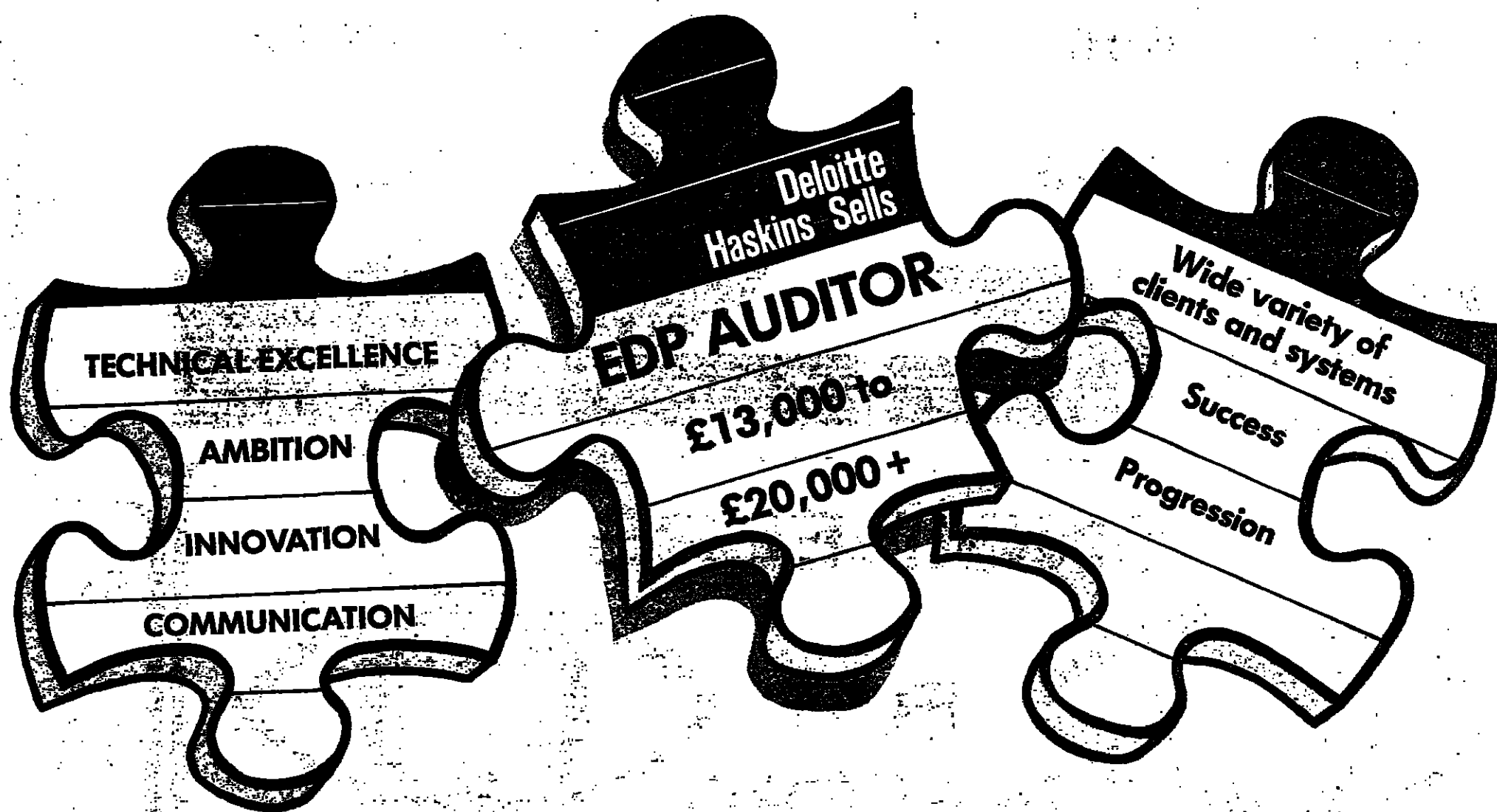
Familiarity with plotters (VERSATEC & CALCOMP); Microcomputers; FORTRAN, COBOL and ideally other languages; Experience of working within reservoir engineering; Educated to A level maths or science - possibly degree level.

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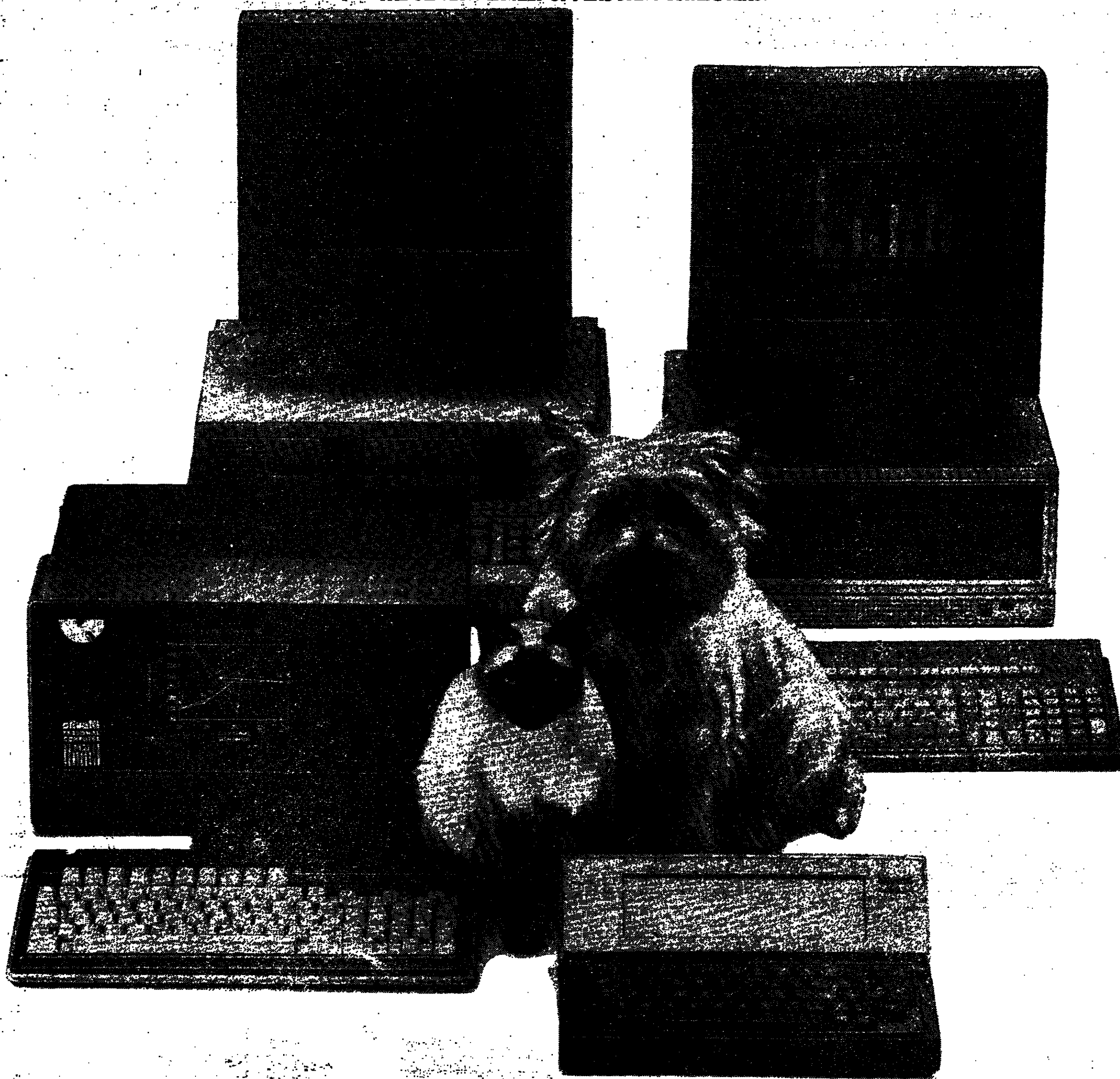
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But the new Olivetti range doesn't stop at desk top computers.

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THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Argentina's theatre of brinkmanship for IMF

The continuing drain of commercial deposits from the Continental Illinois Bank must be evoking some wry smiles of satisfaction in Buenos Aires, where President Raul Alfonsín is playing a game of brinkmanship with the International Monetary Fund over the agreement of economic terms vital to the propping up and rescheduling of its \$32 billion foreign debt.

Although Continental's problems have little to do with the debts of Latin American countries, the revenue accounts and even balance sheets of several other US banks could look sick if Argentina fails to meet payments due when the banks make up their half-yearly books on the last day of this month.

That fear might be expected to push the United States either into extending temporary credits geared to a deal with the IMF beyond the end of the week or to hinting to the IMF management in Washington that its men negotiating on the spot in Buenos Aires might consider a few last minute concessions to the political difficulties of Señor Alfonsín's civilian administration.

The latest Argentinean move, to sign its own unilateral "letter of intent", although it had failed to agree to the terms with the IMF is a fascinating piece of theatre that clashed over the weekend with that other piece of political theatre in London, where summit leaders, who effectively represent the creditors, agreed a debt strategy that will countenance longer-term rescheduling, but a link this even more strongly to countries agreeing - and sticking to - IMF approved economic programmes.

Unless the IMF negotiators suddenly start going soft, the creditor nations may find they have somewhat painted themselves into a corner.

For an increasing number of debtors, especially those calling for a North-South confrontational debt conference in September, the undoubted lure of longer-term debt arrangements may pale before the horror of suddenly switching to responsible economic policies in a politically volatile environment. Brazil's riots were not lost on other debtor governments. On the other hand the balance between tolerating economic softness and shoring up commercial banks is surely tilting in the creditor countries.

In this atmosphere there is plenty of scope for brinkmanship by Argentina and others throughout the summer. Indeed, cynics see President Alfonsín's sudden resuscitation of the Falklands issue as another possible diversion, with arrangements with British banks, notably Lloyds and Midland, as a pawn to be used in the interplay between the IMF negotiations and the protection of the Argentine government's political popularity.

None of this will provide immediate succour for anxious financial markets.

GEC's untidy £60,000 vacancy

WANTED: chairperson for leading industrial company. Should be aged 60-65 and have a distinguished record in public life. Experience of the higher reaches of Whitehall desirable. The successful candidate should be able to handle a lively and opinionated board, including a managing director and his deputy who normally have a clear idea of what they want their colleagues to approve. Knowledge of the electrical industry possibly more of a handicap than anything else. Salary £60,000 a year, but negotiable.

P.S. Females may apply, but should be aware that the board already possesses one of the most acute directors in the land.

That, is so many words, is the vacancy

which has been on offer at the Stanhope Gate offices of the General Electric Company, no less, for the past six months since the then chairman, Lord Carrington, declared that he was going to take up the post of secretary-general of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. On Saturday the notice period ran out and yesterday GEC formally announced that Lord Carrington had ceased to be a director.

Without the slightest disrespect to Lord Carrington's eminent deputy, Lord Aldington (chairman GEC before the great three way merger), it is quite extraordinary for a company of the importance of GEC to be chairmanless. A board which includes Lord Weinstock and Sir Kenneth Bond as managing and deputy managing director respectively, and also boasts Mrs Sara Morrison, Lord Catto, Lord Richardson, Mr Sebastian de Ferranti, Sir William Rees-Mogg, and Lord Nelson of Stafford. Lord Carrington's predecessor in the chair, is hardly going to fall apart at the seams for lack of someone to call the meeting to order. But for such a job to be publicly on offer for such a period and not be filled smacks of untidiness.

If the company had someone lined up, the name would have been unveiled by now. Perhaps, as with GEC's notorious £1.5 billion cash mountain, the board prefers no decision to a possible wrong decision. Nevertheless, the impression which is conveyed is one of indecision and delay. Should GEC succeed in its attempt to take over British Aerospace, that company's chairman - Sir Austin Pearce - could simply move across, as Lord Nelson did when GEC took over English Electric in 1968. All the same, £850m and a bundle of headaches seems a high price to pay for a new leader.

Enterprise Oil is still on target

The Government will doubtless heave a sigh of relief if it finally gets the flotation of Enterprise Oil under way next week. The escalating crisis in the Gulf on the one hand and the jitters of the London stock market on the other have conspired to ensure that Enterprise will have to make its debut in what are anything but stable market conditions. It would require a big upset now to stop the flotation, however, and the banks and brokers to the issue were still confident yesterday of meeting the target date of the middle of next week.

If nothing else this will be a courtesy to the management of the new company, who have talked themselves hoarse in the last few weeks in a jaw-numbing round of institutional and stockbroking love-ins.

Just in case there was any danger of the City forgetting about them, Enterprise popped up yesterday with an announcement that it has reached another "farm-in" deal in the North Sea. This is the second such deal in its short history, and shows it is not losing any time in broadening and strengthening its exploration base, albeit so far only in a small way. Yesterday's deal involves its taking over a 10 per cent stake in two exploration blocks to the northwest of the Shetlands from Rio Tinto-Zinc. The operator on the blocks is Esso, and both must be regarded as long-term ventures, given the still largely intractable problems of deep water drilling and development posed by the west of Shetlands area.

The big question surrounding Enterprise remains in which direction it will take its first big acquisitive step. Answers will have to wait until next week's prospectus - and quite probably some way beyond.

Profit slump at Sealink likely to halve selloff proceeds

By Jonathan Davis, Financial Correspondent

Estimates of proceeds from the impending privatization of Sealink, British Rail's ferry and harbour subsidiary, are being rapidly downgraded after the company's unexpectedly poor performance this year.

The half-a-dozen private sector companies still in the running to buy Sealink are waiting to hear what this year's outlook is expected to be. The company last year made a pre-tax profit of £4.1m after the previous year's £6.4m loss.

Sealink is expected to forecast a worse performance than last year when the figures are produced later this month - and could even record a net loss after interest payments on hefty debts.

Industrial action by the National Union of Seamen in protest at privatization is partly to blame for the disappointing performance. This has not only hit Sealink's revenues but has also had some impact on advance bookings for the peak summer holiday season.

A general sales decline is

expected to be the other main factor behind the disappointing performance.

The upshot is that though optimists had Sealink raising upwards of £70m for British Rail, the final net proceeds are likely to be no more than half that figure, and could be even less.



Reid: possibility of a net loss

Front-runners in the bidding are Trafalgar House, Sea Containers and a consortium including the National Freight Consortium and Sealink's own management. Ellerman and Common Brothers have also expressed interest.

Morgan Grenfell, the merchant bank handling the sale said yesterday that the bidders would hear shortly of final details of the crucial renegotiated contracts which will govern the future relationship between Sealink and British Rail. Finalization of the privatization deal has been delayed while these negotiations have been completed.

In one critical area, the contract covering British Rail's

and Sealink have agreed to drop these two routes from next year, saving Sealink two loss-making pieces of business, but only at a cost of redundancies which could total as much as £10m.

Dropping this loss-making business is seen as essential if Sealink is to present itself as a viable privatization candidate. British Rail has already agreed in effect to write off some £70m of debt owed by Sealink to facilitate the disposal process.

The Government yesterday formally launched its attempt to sell Falmouth Shiprepair, part of British Shipbuilders, to the private sector. Morgan Grenfell, the merchant bank, has been instructed to seek offers for the company, the only profitable repair yard in the corporation.

It made a pre-tax profit of £1.19m in 1982-83 on turnover of £7.8m, and in the latest financial year repaired 110 ships and again made a profit. Two other smaller repair yards have already been sold as part of the Government's continuing plan to privatize British Shipbuilders.

Equally significant is what will happen to British Rail's freight business on its Harwich-Zebrugge and Holyhead-Dublin routes. There is considerable speculation that British Rail

Setback for Continental

First Chicago Corporation yesterday formally ruled out the possibility of merging with Continental Illinois, the troubled US bank.

Under Illinois law, only First Chicago, other Illinois banks or foreign banks could bid for Continental.

Mr David Taylor, chairman of Continental Illinois, called First Chicago's decision "probably best for the competitive environment and general health of the financial community."

Mr Taylor said in a prepared statement, "There would be some attractive aspects to a merger between Continental and First National Bank of Chicago."

"However, when all is said and done, the presence of two money centre banks in the city is probably best."

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 Index: 1075.9 up 7.3 (high: 1076.5; low: 1072.7)
FT Index: 638.1 up 6.7
FT All Share: 15.247
Datastream USM Leaders Index: 105.86 down 0.36
New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average: (latest) 1122.57 down
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 10,376.83 up 25.90
Hong Kong: Hang Seng Index 996.12 up 1.91

CURRENCIES

STERLING

1.3855 down 45pts
Index 79.6 unchanged
DM 3.77 up 0.0050
FF 11.57 up 0.0025
Yen 322 down 1.0
Dollar
Index 130.4 up 0.1
DM 2.7125 up 0.0130
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling 1.3875
Dollar DM 2.7135
INTERNATIONAL
ECU n/a
SDR 2.749169

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 9-9 1/4
Finance houses base rate 9 1/4
Discount market loans week fixed 9-9 1/4
3 month interbank 9 1/4 - 9 1/2
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 11 1/4 - 11 1/2
3 month DM 5 1/4 - 5 1/2
3 month Fr F13 1/4 - 12 3/4
US rates:
Bank prime rate 12.50
Fed funds 11 1/8
Treasury long bond 98 1/8 - 98 3/4
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period May 2 to June 5, 1984 inclusive: 9.516 per cent.
GOLD
London fixed (per ounce):
am \$383.60 pm \$382.60
clean \$377.75 - \$378.25 (\$271.25 - \$271.75)
New York (latest): \$377.25
Kruggerand (per coin): \$380-390.50 (\$279.25-280.25)
Sovereigns (new): \$360-380 (\$266.75)
*Excludes VAT

Wholesale prices trend slows

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Marked easing of the rise in factory gate prices in May to a provisional 0.4 per cent compared with the 1.1 per cent jump in April brought comfort to the Government on inflation rate expectations yesterday.

There had been speculation that the annual rate was about to drop from 5.2 per cent to about 5 per cent, moving closer to the Treasury's forecast for a year-end retail price inflation of 4.5 per cent.

But retail sales in May dropped almost two full percentage points, seasonally adjusted, compared with April. Both Whitehall and the trade nevertheless see the volume index of 110.3 against April's 112.2 not as a collapse in retail sales strength but a continuation of the overall trend so far this year.

The index average for retail sales in the first quarter was 108.5. The combination of good weather and Easter in April boosted sales.

The May index on producer prices at the factory gate was 132.2, pushing down the year-on-year rise to 6.4 per cent from April's 6.6 per cent. The 0.4 per cent May rise was spread generally across all industries.

The index for manufactured products other than food, drink and tobacco was up more at 0.6 per cent to 127.5 per cent. The same increase as April. The May year-on-year gain was 5.6 per cent compared with April's 5.5 per cent.

Cost of raw materials to

manufacturers increased only 0.1 per cent in May, down from April's 0.7 per cent rise. It means there has been a year-on-year rise of 8.1 per cent against April's 8.6 per cent.

One influence on the factory gate prices could be the tailing-off of winter energy costs. But some analysts have been surprised that the sterling-dollar devaluation has not fed through more strongly to raw material input costs.

In retail sales the best improvements have been in clothing and footwear. Sales at the John Lewis department stores have been climbing throughout May and in the week to June 2 were up 13.7 per cent, on the same time a year ago, well ahead of estimate.

Plessey to invest £20m in Italy

By Our Financial Correspondent

Plessey yesterday announced plans to invest at least £20m in joint venture operations with Electronics, Italian specialist defence electronics company. Electronics is based in Rome and employs 2,100 people. Turnover last year was £65m, of which 80 per cent went for export.

The deal announced yesterday will involve Plessey taking 35 per cent of the Italian company's enlarged capital case, with the option to increase this to 49 per cent over the next five years.

These arrangements will be reversed with a new joint venture company to be set up in Britain in which Electronics will have the option to extend an initial 35 per cent stake to 49 per cent.

Mr Michael Clark, the executive chairman of Plessey Electronic Systems, said the deal would enhance Plessey's position as one of the West's leading defence electronics companies, and underline its pre-eminence in communications, command control and intelligence systems.

Talks between the two companies began last year, but Plessey denied the deal had been influenced by recent merger moves involving British Aerospace and other British defence companies, including GEC and Thorn EMI.

Royal Bank nears deal with Lloyds

By Jeremy Warner

Royal Bank of Scotland Group is about to sell its 39.3 per cent stake in Lloyds & Scottish to Lloyds Bank, the hire-purchase company's controlling shareholder. After months of negotiation, the two banks are thought to be close to a deal.

It is believed that the agreement will also include a commitment by Lloyds to reduce its shareholding in the Royal Bank from its present level of 21.3 per cent to below 20 per cent. When the stake was increased from 16.4 per cent last December, the Office of Fair Trading recommended an investigation by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

This advice would be withdrawn if Lloyds agreed to cut the stake to former levels, removing from Mr Norman Tebbit, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, the need to cast judgment on the situation.

Royal Bank of Scotland shares leapt 9p to 212p yesterday, fuelled by speculation that a deal would make the bank more prone to a takeover bid.

One analyst said there was a danger that Lloyds would decide to place some or all of its share stake in unfriendly hands, while the sale of the Lloyds & Scottish stake would provide a much needed boost to the bank's capital base. "Royal Bank will be a very attractive proposition after it has sold out of Lloyds & Scottish and it is still the only British clearing bank which it is remotely possible to bid for," he said.

The bargaining position of Lloyds Bank has been considerably enhanced since the Budget changes to capital allowances and the effect this will have on the leasing industry. Lloyds & Scottish has some big leasing contracts and the company's financial position and its value is bound to have been considerably damaged by the Budget.

Abu Dhabi confirms 12.5% Reuters stake

By Philip Robinson

Arab interests yesterday confirmed having a 12.5 per cent stake in Reuters, the independent news and business information agency. The stake is worth £84m at last night's price of 230p a share.

The Abu Dhabi Investment Authority, a government agency with an office in Bishopsgate, London, has 36,535,000 Reuters "B" shares.

Just above 12 per cent of the stake was bought in America. A London spokesman said the authority rarely buys more than 5 per cent of any share price.

The Investment Authority said in a formal statement last night that their interest had been motivated "solely by consideration of what we believe will prove a relatively attractive rate of return".

Mr Nigel Juda, Reuters' finance director, said the authority had been in touch with the agency's stockbroker, Hoare Govett, last week and knew it could not own more than 15 per cent.

NEWS IN BRIEF

17 to fight for place on SE council

Nominations closed yesterday for elections to the Stock Exchange Council on June 20. There are 17 candidates for 13 places, heralding a rare contested vote.

Eleven council members are offering themselves for re-election. They include Sir Nicholas Goodison, the chairman. The following six have also been nominated: Mr Hengist Bradshaw, of Vivian Gray; Mr Kenneth Carter, of de Zoete and Bevan; Mr Keith Goldie-Morrison, of Keith Bayley Rogers; Mr John Hakness, of Barnshaw Hues; Mr Jeremy Lewis, of Seymour Pierce; and Mr Jonathan Miller, of Fielding Newson-Smith.

Amersham International, the chemicals group, yesterday reported a 22 per cent increase in pretax profits to £13.27m for the year to March 31. Group turnover grew by 20 per cent to £87.5m compared with the previous year.

Tempus, page 22

Caffyns, the south coast motor dealers, has lifted pretax profits for the year to March 31 to £614,000 up from £34,000. Turnover increased from £72.6m to £90.1. The final dividend of 2.3p makes 4.5p for the year, the same as last time.

Tempus, page 22

MANSFIELD BREWERY is to pay a final dividend of 5.75p, making 8p (6.75p) for the year to March 31. Sales totalled £68m (£62m) and pretax profits were £8.5m (£7.96m).

Tempus, page 22

Disney considers options

From Nick Gilbert, New York

The board of Walt Disney Productions was holding an urgent meeting in Los Angeles yesterday morning to consider the take-over bid launched by Mr Saul Steinberg, the Wall Street financier. Disney's directors had called for a halt in share trading, spending an announcement.

On Friday, Mr Steinberg, supported by Mr Kerk Kerkorian of MGM/UA and the construction group Fisher Brothers, launched two bids to give him effective control of Disney.

The Steinberg group is offering \$67.50 a share for 37.9 per cent of Disney, which, together with Mr Steinberg's existing 11 per cent stake, would give them almost 49 per cent of the company. The group is also offering \$72.50 a share for Disney's entire equity, valuing Disney at \$2.44bn (about £1.75bn).

In an attempt to put pressure on the Disney board, the higher offer is conditional on Disney dropping a proposal to buy Gibson Greetings for at least \$310m in Disney stock.

Inauspicious background for Geneva talks

Doubts over new sugar deal

By Michael Prest

Delegates from the world's sugar producing and consuming nations gather in Geneva today for the start of what could be a marathon meeting for a new International Sugar Agreement.

But the widespread feeling is that the proceedings will owe more to diplomacy than to commerce.

Many in the sugar industry doubt that an effective agreement can be reached, some doubt whether any agreement covering exports and prices can be reached at all.

Certainly the background is inauspicious. Sugar prices of 6 cents a pound are virtually the lowest recorded, and in the absence of any significant price movements for about a year, market traders have been struggling to justify their existence. The floor price in the present agreement is 15 cents.

Sugar supply has exceeded or

roughly equalled demand for the last four years. The 12 months from August 1984 to September 1985 (commonly taken as the sugar year) are forecast to see another surplus of about 1 million tonnes after production of 97 million tonnes.

But the problems do not end there. Sugar has proved to be a very volatile commodity. When prices rise, producers and traders make a lot of money. All the 46 exporting signatories to the present agreement therefore want their export entitlements - to be known as Reference Export Availabilities - to be as high as possible.

The broad proposals before the meeting, which is being held under the auspices of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, envisage a combination of stocking and export quotas, operating within an agreed price range.

The central arguments will be over how to calculate these amounts. The quotas may be based on a moving average of the last five years, the three best years of the last five, or other combinations. Industry statisticians put the global figure at 19 million tonnes.

If that can be agreed, how much should be stocked at a given price level? One proposal is that there should be a top price range of 18 to 25 cents, where destocking would occur, and a bottom range of 6 to 7 to 11 cents where price support would be needed. In between would be a "zone of inactivity".

The pressure on the delegates are illustrated by Brazil's threat to withdraw from the agreement and dump sugar if its existing quota of 2.8 million tonnes is reduced.

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Derek Newton, Chairman

C.E. Heath Public Limited Company

Copies of the Report and Accounts for the year to 31 March 1984 can be obtained from The Secretary, C.E. Heath Public Limited Company, Culbert Heath House, 150 Minories, London EC3N 1NR.

Brokerage up from £26.8m to £29.2m

Underwriting profit up from £7.6m to £11.6m

Operating profit up from £19.5m to £23.6m

Earnings per share 36.9p

Gross dividends per share up from 21.1p to 24.3p

INTERNATIONAL INSURANCE BROKERS · REINSURANCE BROKERS AND UNDERWRITING AGENTS

STOCK MARKET REPORT

American buyers help to brighten lack-lustre day

By Derek Pain and Michael Clark

Shares started the second leg of the account in confident form - helped by a sprinkling of transatlantic interest. The summit pressure for lower world interest rates and the slightly less strained atmosphere in the Gulf were contributing factors.

But trading was pathetically thin, at times down to the merest trickle. So it required only marginal interest to spur a share and with buyers just about getting the upper hand the FT 30 shares index ended near its best level for the day at 838.1 points up 6.7 points. Two index stocks influenced by US buying were Bowater and Hawker Siddeley.

Gills started well but gradually lost their enthusiasm as the day progressed and finished little changed.

Closure of Whitbread's Luton brewery should quickly spill over to profits. The plant is surplus to requirements and Whitbread will have no difficulty meeting demand from its other breweries. Allied-Lyons has not asked back since it shut its Birmingham brewery and Whitbread should make similar progress. Yet the shares fell 1p to 63p yesterday.

Yesterday's two newcomers to the Unlisted Securities market met with vastly different receptions, in first time dealings. Northamber, the computer printer specialist, opened at 128p compared with a placing price of 115p at which level broker Simon & Coates offered the 1.3 million shares. The price closed at 145p, after 150p - a premium of 35p.

That is good news for the chairman and founder Mr David Phillips who overnight becomes a paper millionaire. Following the placing his stake of 5.16 million shares is worth £7.48m with the entire company valued at more than £10m.

But Tusk Resources could only open at 38p compared with the original placing price of 43p. The price later rallied to 40p, but failed to hold this level closing at 37p - a discount of 6p.

Among the high street banks Royal Bank of Scotland stood

out with a 9p rise to 212p amid growing speculation that it was preparing to sell-off its key stake in Lloyds & Scottish Finance to Lloyds Bank for about £100m. The gossip was heightened by Lloyds' 23 per cent stake in Royal and confirmation that the two groups have been in talks about L & S for several months.

It also raises the possibility that Royal might be ripe for a takeover itself. If it decides to part with L & S, Lloyds advanced 5p to 339p, while elsewhere Midland improved 5p to 334p, Barclays 7p to 474p, and National Westminster 2p to 564p.

The Dee Corp has again been able to pick up shares in Booker McConnell, the agricultural and pharmaceutical distribution group, following its bid of 165p a share.

Dee's broker is thought to have bought an extra 4 million shares, or just over 3 per cent of the shares yesterday. Dee now owns nearly 9 per cent of Booker.

McConnell, the agricultural and pharmaceutical distribution group, following its bid of 165p a share.

A last minute bout of upgrading ahead of today's figures was good for 4p on Metal Box at 350p, after 356p. Analysts had been hoping for pretax profits of about £68m, but this has now been upgraded

to between £72m and £73m compared with £57m last year.

There has also been a sharp upgrading of Pilkington full year figures also expected later this week. Earlier guestimates of between £75m and £80m are now reading £100m leaving the outcome unchanged on last year's performance. Pilkington ended the day 5p dearer at 303p.

lending commanded over three-month as evidence of persisting doubts about the outlook.

The longer end of the interbank term deposit market tended firmer at the end of the day. Sterling certificates of deposit were more favourable on dates out to six months, but the long end failed to hold the earlier tendency of the outset.

Traders pointed to the one-point premium that 12-month

The Reuters flotation continues to be good news for newspaper shares where the price advanced another 5p to 230p compared with last week's striking price of 196p. The latest flurry of activity was helped by the news that the Arabs have already built up a 12.5 per cent stake through the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority.

Assorted Newspapers greeted the news with an 8p rise to 493p while the Daily Mail Trust hardened 5p to 775p.

Shares of the Country Gentleman's Association surged almost 100p to 520p on the 500p tender offer from Atlanta Investment Trust. CGA's directors urged shareholders to take no action while they talk to their financial advisers.

Atlanta, run by ex-stockbroker Mr Tony Cole, aged 35, is being developed into a financial group and is attracted by CGA's 30,000 membership.

Mr Cole, who is transforming Atlanta from a sleepy investment trust, hopes eventually to take the company into banking and insurance broking.

Whitbread Investment Co., almost half owned by the Whitbread brewing group, has paid £475,000 for a 20 per cent interest in City wine and spirit merchants, Corney and Barrow, a family controlled company which produced profits of £276,000 in its last financial year.

Corney was once controlled by International Distillers and Vintners, now part of Grand Metropolitan but was the

subject of a management buy out in the late 1960s.

Mr Robin Kerrick, chairman, says the Whitbread cash, which goes into the company, will be used for expansion. "We had the choice of raising capital from our shareholders, going to the banks or seeking investment trust cash, we decided on the latter course," he said.

The Whitbread investment

concern has, in the past, concentrated largely on building up share stakes in provincial breweries.

Raise Industries, the engineering to property group, was unchanged at 234p after Suter, the vehicle of Mr David Abell, increased its shareholding by 100,000 shares to 6.2 per cent.

Stores were encouraged by the retail sales figures. Debenhams continued to benefit from takeover speculation, despite the weekend denial of any bid intention by Harris Queensway, and rose 4p to 181p. Harris was up 2p at 176p. Habitat Mothercare gained 10p to 296p, helped along by a buy recommendation from the stockbrokers, Earnshaw Haas. "The group," it says, "enthusiastically, 'should have no problem in delighting shareholders for years to come'."

The stockbroker, Simon & Coates, applauds the appointment of Mr Greg Hutchings as chief executive of F. H. Toms and suggests the group will be reshaped into an industrial holding company. The shares, at 59p, do not "take account of considerable growth in earnings in future years via acquisitions and organic growth". Profits of £2m (£1.6m) are forecast for the year to the end of April and £2.8m this year.

Fleet Holdings, owner of the Daily Express, Sunday Express and Daily Star, was another firm market adding to 2p to 175p, and continued to edge nearer its all time high of 190p. Just two weeks ago investors were pricing the shares at about the 146p level amid heavy call option business.

The group's sizable stake in Reuters is one factor, but the other is the 10 per cent owned by Australian entrepreneur Mr Robert Holmes a Court.

Gold shares were a dull market losing up to 50 cents among the heavyweights as the bullion price lost another couple of dollars to close at \$382.50 an ounce.

Equity turnover on June 8 was £219,078m (13,130 bargains). The number of British and Irish stocks traded was 113.6 million. Gilt bargains totalled 3,088.

Down early on, the dollar rallied sharply when New York came in during the afternoon and ended near its best of the day.

Trade in London was very thin because of the European holiday, and the pound generally moved in unison with the dollar.

Initially the dollar was sold modestly in the Far East and Europe behind the London Summit call for lower American interest rates, falling to 2.6870 Deutschmark before rebounding to 2.7125, up 1.40 pence on-balance. Higher fed funds of 11 1/4 per cent gave the currency a boost in mid-afternoon.

The pound moved narrowly for much of the session before dipping finally to 1.3895 against the dollar (after 1.3985), a net fall of 0.45 cent, though its trade weighted level ended unchanged at 79.6.

Sterling improvements over the Deutschmark 3.7700 (3.7670), and Swiss franc 3.1450 (3.1375), but declined against the yen, 321.75 (323.00).

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Mercantile Credit offers flexible loan account

By Vivien Goldsmith

Mercantile Credit, the finance house subsidiary of Barclays Bank, has launched a flexible loan account with a chequebook.

The scheme, which is initially being offered to Mercantile Credit's existing 100,000 cheque customers, allows account holders to borrow up to 30 times the amount of their agreed monthly repayments. The monthly repayment can be anything between £10 and £100. Interest is charged at 1.8 per cent a month or a 23.8 per cent annual percentage rate.

While the account is in credit interest is paid on the balance at 3 per cent below the finance

house base rate, which amounts to a rate of 6.5 per cent.

The scheme has developed out of Mercantile's AA Chequebook scheme, which was launched about a year ago. Mercantile is reluctant to say how many of the 200,000 AA members who were offered the facility took it up, but the venture has been enough of a success for it to put its name to a chequebook loan account.

The new account should not be confused with Barclay's own high interest cheque account launched last month. This offers a rate of 8.75 per cent on deposits (9.04 per cent APR)

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Gross Distribution per Unit 0.020 cents
Less 15% U.S.A. Withholding Tax 0.003 cents

Converted at \$1.41 = 80.01205673

Claims should be lodged with the DEPOSITARY, National Westminster Bank PLC, Stock Office Services, 20 Old Broad Street, London EC2 on special forms obtainable from that office.

United Kingdom Banks and Members of the Stock Exchange should mark payment of the dividend in the appropriate square on the back of the certificate.

All other claimants must complete the special form and present this at the above address together with the certificate(s) for marking by the National Westminster Bank PLC. Postal applications cannot be accepted.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

● LONDON AND NORTHERN GROUP: The chairman, Mr Jack Macdonald, tells shareholders in his early report: "Our policy of engaging the group in complementary fields with good growth potential is being continued and should ensure further growth in 1984."

● JULIANA'S HOLDINGS: Mr Oliver Vaughan, the joint chairman, told the annual meeting that the investments which the company is making, while obviously holding back profits in the short term, are, he believed, laying a solid foundation for growth and prosperity. In spite of these large investments, which will result in little growth in the first half of the current year, he still expects profits to grow significantly in the second half, resulting in substantially higher profits for the whole of 1984.

● ARNOLD KERRIDGE: As an operator for onshore petroleum prospecting licence 2/80, reports that the drilling of McNeen No 2 Well has been completed and the well is being successfully plugged and abandoned. During drilling some indications of gas were encountered at several levels.

● MIXCONCRETE TRANSPORT: Pioneer Concrete Services' British offshoot, Pioneer Concrete (Holdings), has agreed to sell Mixconcrete Transport to Cleanway.

● UNITECH: Unitech through its subsidiary, U L America, has acquired U L America, a subsidiary of Holmberg Electronics, by investing \$4.84m (£3.43m) in new capital.

● SHERATON SECURITIES INTERNATIONAL (U.S.): A U.S. company, Sheraton Securities International, is to be formed by the merger of Sheraton Securities International and Sheraton Securities International (U.S.). The new company is to be formed by the merger of Sheraton Securities International and Sheraton Securities International (U.S.).

● PERICOM: Pericom, who came to the U.S. last November, reports pretax profits up by 83.4 per cent to \$253,000 for the half-year to March 31, 1984. Turnover rose by 3.5 per cent to \$3.97m. Interim payment of 0.7p a share declared.

● GRESHAM GROUP: Gresham Life Assurance Society and Gresham Unit Assurance achieved a 100 per cent increase in turnover to £1.2m in the first half of 1984. Mr W J Nannings, the chairman, in the 1983/Report. Total assets, at £220m, showed an increase of £40m compared with the previous year. Total sums assured now exceed £1.5m. The company's 200,000 policies, Mr Nannings is confident that any temporary loss of business resulting from the elimination of life assurance premium relief will be offset by new business arising from reduction in house purchase costs and the cut in interest rates earlier this year.

● SANGERS PHOTOGRAPHICS: Mr R A Branson, the chairman, says in his annual statement: "Profits since the year-end are on target and I look forward to reporting satisfactory progress in my half-year report."

Computer consultants to merge

By Philip Robinson

Systems Designers International is to merge with another private company, Systems Programming Holdings, for £10m. Both are computer consultants.

The acquisition will be funded by the issuing of new Systems Designers shares which will first be halved into two 5p shares.

Those issued by the company to pay for the deal will be offered by the merchant bank Samuel Montague to Systems Designers' shareholders as a rights offer, on the basis of four for one of the new 5p shares.

This will enable directors and family who hold a 44 per cent stake to sell their rights to the new shares in the stock market, to realize cash.

Systems Designers, which came to market almost 20 months ago via a placing of shares in March reported a 46 per cent rise in pretax profits to £13.95m on a turnover of £13.95m.

Latest figures for Systems Programming show 1983 pretax profits of £561,000 on a turnover of £11m from information systems, communications and advanced software technology.

A merger will increase Systems Designers' staff by 80 per cent, and provide overseas markets in Belgium, Holland, Italy and Sweden.

The deal will enlarge Systems Designers capital by about 27 per cent. Mr Philip Swinstead, Systems Designers chairman, says the merger will create a major European software group with more than 1,000 employees.

Renewed volatility in interest and foreign exchange rates has resulted in increased demand for the group's money broking services producing results for this division considerably ahead of those of last year, Mr Clarke said.

Tolerate continues to produce excellent results while stock broking and the Cartmore fund management operations are making profits well ahead of those of the same period of 1983, the chairman added.

Scottish Life Investments

INSURANCE FUNDS

Net Asset	1983	1984
Property	95.0	102.1
UK Equity	94.4	102.1
American	96.9	102.1
Pacific	92.7	97.7
European	92.7	97.7
International	92.7	97.7
Fixed Interest	92.7	97.7
Fixed Interest	92.7	97.7
Deposit	92.7	97.7
Green	92.7	97.7
Pen Managed	92.7	97.7
Pen Property	92.7	97.7
Pen UK Equity	92.7	97.7
Pen American	92.7	97.7
Pen Pacific	92.7	97.7
Pen European	92.7	97.7
Pen International	92.7	97.7
Pen Fixed Int	92.7	97.7
Pen Index Ltd	92.7	97.7
Pen Deposit	92.7	97.7

Scottish Life
19 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh
Telephone: 031-225 2211

TEMPUS

City doubts remain over fast-growing Amersham

Amersham International is fast-reaching a watershed in its development. Although the company is producing a solid profits performance, in line with the business plan produced at the flotation, there are considerable doubts in the City about how it will develop in the rapidly-changing markets in which it operates.

Those investors who bought shares at the 140p offer level in 1982 have nothing to fear. Yesterday, the shares were up 5p to 233p on the reported 22 per cent increase in pretax profits to £13.72m for the year to March 31.

Group turnover increased by 20 per cent to £87.5m and in future investors were told that they must expect profits and turnover to rise broadly along the same lines.

Growth in overseas markets continues to be a strong feature of Amersham's performance with the Far East and Australasia looking particularly buoyant. Amersham benefits from the creation of two operating subsidiaries to sell its products in Japan.

Elsewhere, an exchange rate benefit of £3m in turnover and £500,000 in profits also helped the figures.

But the key to the future lies in Amersham's ability to exploit new developments, particularly in the medical field. Traditionally, the group has relied upon its radioactive diagnostic abilities.

But with the increasing competition in the market for medical products Amersham is also looking at non-radioactive diagnostic developments.

Total group investment on research and development is running at about 9 per cent of turnover this year, or £7.5m, and will rise to 10 per cent of turnover during the next year. About 40 per cent of this spending is going into non-radioactive research.

One of the first fruits of this fresh investment approach is the development of a unique non-radioactive diagnostic kit, which can detect abnormalities in pregnancy.

However, Amersham still has to overcome the problems which is faces competing against the big companies in the medical business.

In the meantime Amersham

continues to increase sales in all its product areas, while improving operating efficiency, making the shares a safe hold for the time being particularly if the company feels that a merger would be of benefit.

Mansfield Brewery

Mansfield Brewery avoided the second half impact of the miners' strike, and with 6.5 per cent jump in pretax profits to £8.5m, ranks highly among regional brewers' results. Growth apparently stems from all-round product excellence, and a broader geographical spread than the stock market imagines. Arguably too the group's in-house lager, Marksman, did more than merely keep the show on the road.

A near-20 per cent rise in 1983/84 dividend certainly shows confidence, while a £2m rise in borrowings should not provoke capital raising fears. Equity is close to £40m, and last year extraordinary property gains netted £1m.

The logic of Mansfield's trading strength, plus its tightly held share capital, makes the group a favourite to spearhead formation of a regional brewers' chain to combat the majors. Mansfield admits to picking up the whippersnappers, an historic rating of 10 at 34p suggests the market has been keeping things as well.

Caffyns

The plight of the motor trade is clearly illustrated by yesterday's results from Caffyns. The company's turnover has increased by 24 per cent to £90m but at the same time gross profits could manage only a 11 per cent improvement to £10.9m.

The main problem is the showroom prize war being waged by the car manufacturers in a bid to offload their over production.

Margins for the dealers have been squeezed and although Caffyns increased the number of cars sold by 40 per cent to more than 14,000 the profit made on each deal actually fell.

Vehicle sales at Caffyns are split almost equally between new and used cars and one way which the company could break the stranglehold on

margin is to shift its emphasis to the second hand market. Price cutting on new cars has had a significant impact on the used car market and Caffyns intends to take full advantage of its devaluation.

Rationalization problems which have plagued Caffyns over the last three years have now been laid safely to rest. Only two more properties remain to be sold. Agreements have been reached and should raise £1m in the current year. Property sales have been an important part of the company's recovery - as shown by yesterday's pretax profit of £814,000 of which only £250,000 was contributed by motor trade activities.

While the short term may not offer too much by way of growth at least Caffyns is - trading at a profit and its aim now must be to reclaim some of the lost margins. The balance sheet will benefit from a property valuation this year to add some much needed strength. At 136p up 10p the shares yield 4.7 per cent.

Gills

Gills gave a small bound for joy after April producer prices and May retail sales which, cumulatively, reinforce the bull's view of post-Summit yields braced against nearly everything. The tiny rise in producer costs suggests that the sterling-dollar devaluation effect may have been over-estimated, while a corporate sector could now be so bleated with cash that it does not need price rises, witness the 0.4 per cent increase in the output index.

But the old tap, for example, Treasury 9% Convertible 1989, would have squeezed more than a 1/4 rise on list prices, had it not been for the malevolent impact of US bonds.

Forecasts of a boom in capital spending from the Commerce Department allied to concerns about this week's devalued Manx monetary data sliced 1/2 point off the long bond in early trading.

With Fed funds trading well over 11 per cent, London fears of imminent recouping, or something similar are now resurfacing.

Hongkong to speed inquiry into Carrion man's death

From Jonathan Clare, Hongkong

The Hongkong Government is to speed up the investigation into the bizarre death of a leading lawyer linked with the collapsed Carrion property empire.

Mr John Wimbush, Carrion's legal adviser, was found dead in the swimming pool of his Hongkong home with a manhole cover tied to his neck.

His death came shortly before he was to be interviewed by Hongkong police about Carrion's failure.

The Government is anxious to stop speculation about the death and has sent a tentative date of July 16 for the inquest.

Mr Wimbush was head of Deacons, Hongkong's biggest law firm, and after his death was alleged by police to have been involved in a conspiracy case involving Carrion.

Other alleged conspirators include three other Deacons lawyers, two Price Waterhouse employees and two former Carrion executives.

Committal proceedings for the conspiracy trial, which involved a property site, are set for September 10. But the main trial, expected to be fought out by some of the finest legal minds in Britain and Hongkong, is not until next year.

Exco on course for good year

By Jeremy Warner

Exco, the financial services group, is heading for another "most satisfactory" year, its outgoing chairman, Mr Hilton S. Clarke, told the annual meeting in London yesterday.

Mr Clarke's place as chairman is being taken by Mr John Sangster, the deputy chairman. Mr Clarke will continue as a non-executive director.

He told shareholders that on the basis of unaudited management accounts up to the end of April they should not be disappointed by results for the first half of this year.

Renewed volatility in interest and foreign exchange rates has resulted in increased demand for the group's money broking services producing results for this division considerably ahead of those of last year, Mr Clarke said.

Tolerate continues to produce excellent results while stock broking and the Cartmore fund management operations are making profits well ahead of those of the same period of 1983, the chairman added.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	9%
Barclays	9 1/4%
BCCI	9 1/4%
Citibank Savings	9 1/4%
Consolidated Crds	9 1/4%
Continental Trust	9%
C. Hoare & Co.	9%
Lloyds Bank	9%
Midland Bank	9 1/4%
Nat Westminster	9%
TSB	9%
Williams & Glyn's	9 1/4%
Citibank NA	9 1/4%

↑ Mortgage Rates
* These deposits are made of under £20,000. 6% £20,000 and over. 6 1/4% £20,000 and over. 6 1/2% £20,000 and over.

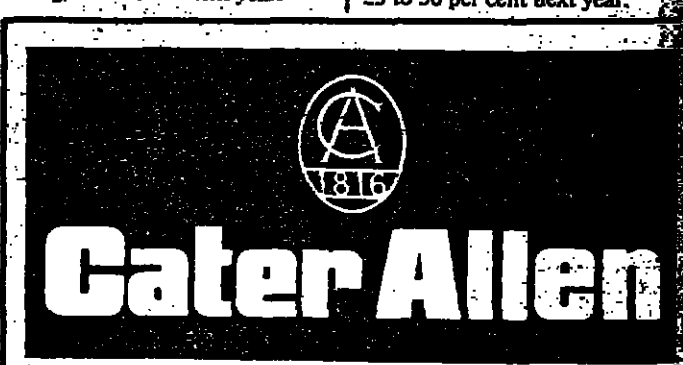
Colony's hotel room rates likely to jump

Tourists are beginning to flood back into Hongkong's hotels and room rates could rise by more than a quarter next year.

A number of hotels have opened in the New Territories, but the business is still dominated by the Mandarin in central Hongkong, an establishment regularly picked out as one of the best in the world in travel surveys.

Room occupancy is running at an average of 90 per cent.

Mr Carlton Poon, the research director of stockbroker Vickers de Costa in Hongkong, believes that rates must rise 25 to 30 per cent next year.



For the year ended 30th April 1984

- * The Company has had another successful year
- * Net profit of £4,800,000 after transfer to inner reserves
- * Dividend 41 1/4% from 38 1/2%
- * Substantial growth in capital resources since 1981

Financial Highlights

	1984	1983
Published Capital and Reserves	£ 22,047,000	£ 19,239,000
Total Assets	1,442,622,000	1,134,745,000
Profit	4,800,000	4,250,000
Dividends	2,069,000	1,932,000

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Legal Appointments

COMPANY SOLICITORS

Clifford-Turner require two experienced solicitors for their company department. The work for both solicitors would be varied and requires a high standard of ability.

One would be engaged principally on the structuring and creation of off-shore and on-shore funds, unit trusts and other vehicles investing in the UK, the USA and elsewhere, and would require to be familiar with securities laws and have an aptitude for innovative drafting.

The second solicitor would work on company financing and investment, acquisitions and new issues, involving both UK and international clients.

The applicants should have at least three years of appropriate experience preferably in the City of London or in a leading provincial firm. Salary and other benefits will be commensurate with experience and ability.

Please apply to B. E. N. Hawkes or D. C. O'Neill,
Clifford-Turner Blackbarns House,
19 New Bridge Street, London EC4.

Army Legal Corps

The Army's Legal Branch will recruit two or three lawyers in Autumn 1984, for which a Selection Board will sit in September. Successful applicants, at least 25 years of age and preferably with advocacy experience will be commissioned as Captains on a starting salary of £10,424, currently under review, with prospects of promotion and a full career to age 60. Further details from Lt Col Hawley, MOD (AL5) Empress State Building, Lillie Road, London SW6 1TR. Telephone (01) 385 1244. Ext. 3182.

ALC Officer

Solicitor or Barrister

Expansion of our legal department has created an opportunity for a Solicitor or Barrister, with at least 3 years' relevant post-qualification experience, to join a small professional team providing legal advice on all matters relevant to Stock Exchange activities. The subject areas are diverse and include Stock Exchange Rules; property matters (particularly leases); general commercial law relevant to Stock Exchange dealings; conduct of litigation and arbitrations and contracts for the supply of goods and services.

You will also have a responsibility for liaison with external legal advisers, and will assist on the preparation for, and the conduct of, the proceedings of the Disciplinary Appeals and Membership Appeals Committees. You will report directly to the Manager, Legal Services and, in his absence, deputise for him.

This new appointment represents an excellent career opportunity for a Solicitor or Barrister, probably in the late 20s, who is seeking wider experience and greater responsibility.

A competitive remuneration package will be offered including a non-contributory pension and assurance scheme, BUPA, a fully-paid season ticket and relocation expenses where appropriate.

Please write with a full curriculum vitae, or telephone for more details to: Jennifer Gregson, Senior Personnel Officer, The Stock Exchange, London EC2N 1HP. Telephone: 01-588 2855 (ext. 8683).

The Stock Exchange

COMPANY COMMERCIAL LAWYERS

D J Freeman & Co with to recruit two able, young lawyers to join their busy company/commercial department. The firm seeks one lawyer of 1/2 years' post-qualification experience and one lawyer of 2/4 years' post-qualification experience.

Applicants should have a good commercial background, preferably in the City. Some expertise in banking or entertainments work would be helpful, but not essential.

The terms and prospects offered will be attractive to the successful applicants.

Please write with full curriculum vitae to N A Leifer,

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The founder Partners are all in their late thirties/early forties. Clients for whom the new firm will act include private and public companies, stockbrokers and financial institutions.

Specialist experience exists in the fields of company/commercial, litigation and entertainment law but another partner is required with wide experience of commercial property work to head the property arm of the practice.

In your 30's, immediate salaried partnership progressing promptly to full equity status.

In the first instance please write or telephone Denis Reed or Cyril Batchelor at The Room Twelve Partnership, Temple Chambers, Temple Avenue, London EC4Y 0HP. 01-583 4847/4929.

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Commercial Property

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Company Solicitor Group Secretariat

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The UK companies are engaged in the manufacture and installation of cables, and the manufacture and distribution of tyres.

The Group Secretariat in Central London, which provides a wide range of company secretarial services for the Pirelli UK companies, wishes to appoint a solicitor to report directly to the Group Director and Secretary, who is a Barrister. The variety of work will include trading agreements, acquisitions and company formations, commercial and financial leasing, commercial conveyancing, restrictive trade practices, employment protection law and general company law.

Applicants, preferably aged late 20's to 40 should be solicitors with several years of broadly based experience since admission. They should have a good commercial sense and a proven ability to communicate well with people at senior levels. Some travelling within the UK will be required.

Attractive fringe benefits commensurate with a senior position in a major company are offered.

Please write - in confidence - with full curriculum vitae and salary details to Lesley Hay-rell: A22007.

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Richards, Butler & Co. have a vacancy in their general litigation department for a newly qualified solicitor.

The work involves mainly commercial litigation including work of a substantial nature.

The successful candidate will start on a generous salary which will take account of age, experience and qualifications.

Please apply in writing with full curriculum vitae to Ann Gabriel at the address below.

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An attractive financial package will be offered together with the possibility of continuing employment in the firm's Perth office.

Applications in writing should be sent to the Resident Partner,

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Responsibilities will cover the management and expansion of the library and of the firm's information services including the collection and classification of material for the information bank and its subsequent dissemination, the handling of research enquiries, and assisting in the operation of Lexis.

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We look forward to seeing you on Stand 26 at the Solicitors Exhibition at the Barbican on 13, 14 and 15 June.

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Personnel
Appointments
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The Times

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Joint of Court School of Law

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Applications are invited from barristers holding postgraduate degrees in law of a UK University or Polytechnic for the post of Lecturer/Tutor on the Vocational Course leading to the Bar Examination.

Salary (including London Allowance) on the scale £20,000-£21,000 p.a. with contributory pension scheme (LSE). Appointment to commence 1st October 1984.

Application forms and particulars are available from the Secretary, The Council of Legal Education, 4 Old Bailey, London EC4A 3DF. Tel: 01-406 4658. To whom they should be returned as soon as possible but not later than 30th June 1984.

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Clyde & Co. require Solicitors, recently qualified or with up to three years' post-qualification experience, to conduct international shipping, insurance and transport cases, including advising on and handling disputes in this country and in many foreign jurisdictions, involving a wide variety of legal and commercial problems and travel abroad. Preference will be given to candidates with a good academic record and experience in commercial litigation. The rewards and prospects in this firm are excellent.

Candidates should apply in writing, enclosing a comprehensive curriculum vitae and quoting reference 2092 to Mrs. Indra Brava,
Corporate Resourcing Group, 6 Westminster Palace Gardens,
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Applicants must be either Solicitors with 2 years' professional experience since Admission, or Barristers with 3 years' professional experience since Call.

Appointment will be for an initial period of 2½ years. The salary for the post is from HK\$11,370 to HK\$19,825 per month (approximately £12,517 - £21,826 p.a.). Starting salary will depend on the successful candidate's experience.

For further information and an application form, write to the Hong Kong Government Office, 6 Grafton Street, London, W1X 3LB, quoting reference LEG 2/84 CO at the top of your letter. Closing date for return of application forms: 6th July 1984.

* Based on exchange rate HK\$10.80 = £1. This rate is subject to fluctuation.

Hong Kong Government

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Herts c. £16,000

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Our Financial Services Department is looking for a Solicitor to provide legal services covering these contracts and their application in areas such as financial planning - in particular where tax implications and trust legislation are concerned. The work will also involve providing technical advice to clients and staff, undertaking some research, and developing ideas for new contracts.

To be considered, you should be a qualified Solicitor aged around 30, with an innovative, enquiring mind. Ideally, you should have several years' post qualification experience including some trust work, although previous experience of life assurance and pension schemes is not essential.

Remuneration includes a salary of c. £16,000 depending on experience, a non-contributory pension scheme, long-term mortgage facilities, and assistance with relocation expenses to this attractive part of Hertfordshire.

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Principal Assistant

Ramsgate and Margate Petty Sessions Divisions
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The post, which arises from the promotion of the present holder to a Deputy Clerkship, is superannuable and subject to JNC Conditions of Service and in approved cases a Disturbance Allowance Scheme is payable.

Further particulars and application forms (returnable by 25 June 1984) from the Clerk to the Kent Magistrates' Courts Committee, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XQ. Tel: Maidstone (0622) 671411 Ext 3344.

W U JACKSON
Clerk of the Committee

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Personnel Appointments

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D Stephen, Partnership Secretary,
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Today's television and radio programmes

Summaries: Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

BBC 1

6.00 **Cereflex** AM.
6.30 **Breakfast Time** with Frank Bough and Sally Scott. News from Debbie Rix at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours; sport at 8.40 and 7.40; regional news, weather and traffic at 8.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; television choice at 6.55; a review of the morning papers at 7.15 and 8.15; horoscopes at 8.35; gardening hints (phone-in) and cookery advice between 8.30 and 9.00.

9.00 **Ask the Family**, Robert Robinson is in the chair for this quiz between the kids from Wokingham in Surrey and the Houghton family from Sheffield (9.25) **Cereflex** 10.30 **Play School**, presented by Jane Hardy (9.55) **Cereflex**.

1.00 **News After Noon** with Richard Whitmore and Frances Cowdell. The weather prospects come from Bill Giles 1.27 **Regional News** (London and SE only). Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles 1.30 **Libra** Misses and the Mister Man (r).

1.45 **The Castles Story**. Part two of the three-part history of Welsh castles 2.25 **History A Dangerous Profession** (1949) starring George Raft as an ex-detective who stands bail for his former girlfriend's husband. This altruistic gesture leads him into the murky reaches of the underworld. Directed by Ted Tetzlaff 3.40 **Cartoon**: Field Mouse 3.50 **Regional News** (not London).

3.55 **Play School**, presented by Ben Thomas 4.20 **Yogi Bear** 4.25 **Traveller**. The final episode of the adventure serial, set on the islands of Malta and Gozo, about how a group of young people inherited a bunch of crooks' plans to steal a golden statuette 4.40 **Make 'Em Laugh**. The first of a new series of clips from silent films. Presented by Mark Curry.

5.00 **John Craven's Newsworld**. A 15-minute news bulletin of black groups during their unusual courtship ritual 5.35 **The Amazing Adventures of Morph** (r).

5.40 **Sixty Minutes** begins with the news at 5.40, followed by weather at 5.45; regional magazines at 5.55; and ending with news headlines at 6.35.

6.40 **You Can't See the Wood**. David Bellamy traces the story of how trees became part of parks and towns and questions their future role.

7.00 **Blankety Blank**. Terry Wogan's weekly chat with guests Lorraine Chase, Pat Coombs, Sandra Dickinson, Roy Hudd, John Inman and Derek Nimmo (Cereflex titles page 170). (r)

7.40 **Sorrell Timothy** takes mother for a ride in a borrowed Triumph Herald with predictably comic consequences.

8.10 **Billy Joel in Concert**, the second part of the American singer's Wembley concert.

9.00 **A Party European Election** Broadcast on behalf of the Conservative Party.

9.10 **News with John Humphrys**: Real Lives: A Company. Four outsiders and their commander, David Hancock, return to Northern Ireland to see the changes that have taken place since they were the first to be stationed in the province 16 years ago (Cereflex titles page 170). (see Choice)

10.25 **Coma Dancing**. The first semi-final is between Home Counties South and Wales. Introduced by David Jacobs.

11.10 **Top Billing**. Bob Fisher follows the fleet of the 1983 Admiral's Cup.

11.45 **News** headlines and weather.

TV-am

6.25 **Good Morning Britain** presented by Anna Diamond and Nick Owen. News from Gordon Honeycombe at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; sport at 6.35 and 7.35; Alan Price's garden at 6.40 and 7.40; the law and rip-off car dealers at 6.45 and 8.45; exercises at 6.50 and 7.50; the day's anniversaries at 7.05 and 8.05; Popeye cartoon at 7.25; Henry Cooper and Spike Milligan at 7.40; pop music at 7.52; Guy's Bradstreet's video report at 8.25; cooking with Russia Lay at 8.55.

ITV/LONDON

8.25 **Thames news headlines**. 8.30 **For Schools**: Early maths: sorting and sharing. 8.45 **The use of language** to convey sympathy and hostility. 10.04 **The life along the shore** between the tides. 10.23 **Family issues** in a religious context. 10.43 **The Berlin Olympic Games**. 11.05 **Insults**. 11.25 **At the airport**. 11.38 **Immigrants** in metropolitan France.

12.00 **One and One**. Puppet fun about a worm and a baby bird. 12.10 **Rainbow**. Learning with puppets (r). 12.30 **The Sullivan**. Drama serial about an Australian family during the Second World War.

1.00 **News with Leonard Parkin**. 1.20 **Thames news**. 1.30 **A Plus Revue**. Gail Neville in New York talking to the founders of Tough Love. David and Phyllis York. 2.00 **Take the High Road**. Drama set on the Scottish highland estate of Glendoch. 2.30 **The Love Boat**. 3.30 **News** and **Debutantes** Australian-made soap opera.

4.00 **One and One**. A repeat of the programme shown at noon. 4.15 **Dangerous** does battle with the evil Baron Greenblatt. 4.30 **How Dare You** Magic and mayhem presented by Roella Benjamin. 4.45 **CBTV**. News, views and ideas for young people. Presented by Paul Henley.

4.55 **Emmerdale Farm**. Jack Sugden sets off to demolish the dam—but he is in for a surprise.

5.45 **News**. 6.00 **Thames news** with Andrew Gardner and Tina Jenkins. 6.20 **Help! You're Taylor** Gave with news of LEEN—the London Energy and Employment Network.

6.30 **Crossroads**. The Chances are disappointed to learn that Diane Hunter is leaving the motel.

6.55 **Reporting London**, presented by Michael Barrett. Michael Wilson reports on the oil wells of south east England and Graham Addcock tours the new Trocadero in Piccadilly Circus.

7.30 **Scarscrow and Mrs King**. American secret service adventures with this week's problems of mistaken identity concerning a Hungarian defector.

8.30 **The Maccabees and Wise** show with guests Colin Withland and Isla St Clair (r). 8.00 **European Party Election** Broadcast on behalf of the Conservative Party.

8.10 **News** followed by Thames news headlines.

9.40 **Play: King Lear**, by William Shakespeare. Laurence Olivier heads a star-studded cast in his first Shakespearean role made exclusively for television. First shown on Channel Four this tragedy also stars Leo McKern, Colin Blakely, John Hurt and, as Lear's daughter, Dorothy Whitby, and Diana Rigg. Directed by Michael Elliott.

12.40 **Night Thoughts**.

BBC 2

6.05 **Open University: Modern Art**. Monuments. 6.30 **Sandwiches and Rhinoceros**. 6.55 **Diabetes: Cause and Effects**. 7.20 **Marmade**. Macromolecules. 7.45 **The Return of the Fly**. Ends at 8.10.

9.00 **Cereflex**. 9.09 **Daytime on Two**: Italian traditions. 9.28 **Cereflex**. 9.48 **Four young people use CSE maths at work**. 10.08 **Cereflex**. 10.28 **Update USA**. How the economic boom in the southern United States affected a small town in the poorest region of the poorest state. 11.00 **Birds**: eggs. 11.17 **How a computer helps the transport planner**. 11.40 **How to build a model bridge** with limited material. 11.45 **Cereflex**.

2.00 **A visit to a factory to see a doll being made**. 2.15 **Women from Sefton and Preston**, with the aid of archive film, produce an examination of their role over the past half-century.

2.35 **Cereflex**. 5.10 **Cambridge College**. An Open University production that focuses on the plight of the Cambridge College of Arts and Technology (r).

5.35 **News** summary with subtitles. 5.45 **Film: Swing Fever**. A comedy short from RKO starring Billy Gilbert, Jack Norton and Christine McIntyre.

6.00 **Film: His Butler's Sister** (1943) starring Deanna Durbin and Franchot Tone. Ambitious to be a star on Broadway, Carter joins her brother on the domestic staff of a famous composer's household. Directed by Frank Borzage.

7.30 **The Great Egg Race**. Teams from Harkov, Glasgow and Middlesbrough are challenged to build a set of stairs that would make a "secret document" burglar-proof. Then they have to test their opponents efforts.

8.00 **Play: Andros and the Lion**. Shaw's comedy was first shown on Schools and marked the classical drama debut of Billy Connolly as Andros (r).

8.40 **A Party European Election** Broadcast on behalf of the Conservative Party.

9.10 **The Young Ones**. The vexed question of Rick's virginity ends in a blazing row with, according to the producers, "leads to some of the most spectacular destruction ever seen on television". You have been warned.

9.45 **One Man and His Dog**. The first semi-final is between Scotland's Bobby Daziel and Evan Hopkins of Wales.

10.30 **Private Lives**. The last programme of the series and Maria Aitken's guests are Germaine Greer and Kenneth Williams.

11.05 **Newsnight**. 11.50 **Open University: The Grand Inquisitor**. 12.15 **Play: Culture Pleasure**. Ends at 1.10.

CHANNEL 4

4.45 **Countdown**. Yesterday's winner of the anagrams and mental arithmetic game is challenged by St Nect's housewife, Sally Wales.

5.15 **Years Ahead**. Magazine programme for the older viewer, presented by Robert Douglas. There are items on professor Alan Garnwell's beautiful garden on the Isle of Arran; on grandparent's right of access to their grandchildren with Lew Gardner talking to a couple who explain how they want to get on with their lives; on the man who is re-modelling his house to accommodate an antiquated cinema organ; and on home sports plans. In the archive spot there is film of Her Majesty the Queen celebrating her 18th birthday.

6.00 **Old Country**. Jack Hargreaves with his weekly report from rural Dorset.

6.30 **Whose Town Is It Anyway?** The seventh of the eight films tackling issues in local and country politics. This edition examines the work of three independent community organizations—the Hillingdon Legal Resource Centre in London; Glasgow's Community Festival Society; and the Coventry Workshop.

7.00 **Channel Four News** with Peter Ross. The news anchor Eleanor Goodman's final European election constituency report.

7.50 **Comment**. With his view on a topical matter is 16-year-old Manchester schoolboy, Darren Bradshaw.

8.00 **Brookside**. Annabelle finally confronts Paul with her belated doubts of his infidelity.

8.30 **A What It's Worth**. Consumer affairs programme presented by Penny Junor. John Stoneborough goes to Birmingham to investigate the appalling working conditions and low pay of workers who make jackets for a well-known chain of stores and David Stafford discovers the best buy television set.

9.00 **Film: The Kid From Nowhere** (1962) starring Susan St James and Beau Bridges. The delicate story of a single parent's over-protective attitude towards her mentally retarded son. This attitude changes after she meets an athletic coach. The part of the boy is played by Ricky Wajman who suffers from Down's Syndrome. The film is directed by Beau Bridges.

10.45 **Eastern Eye** includes reports on how British Punjabis are reacting to the events in Amritsar and the problems facing Asians when they buy gold.

11.45 **European Party Election** Broadcast on behalf of the Conservative Party.

11.55 **Closedown**.

CHOICE

Astonishment, too, that although the Special Branch kept two filing cabinets filled with intelligence about the Republican threat, there was nothing on file about the Protestant paramilitary UVF. "What UVF?" queried the Special Branch man. "There is no UVF." Strong stuff, but past history. Yet it was Union Jacks and God Save the Queen that filled the streets when British troops first came under fire. What about the security situation in Northern Ireland today? "A" Company's former commander finds no boldness, no vision, constitutional or political. His view is that the military presence is not going to create a great deal, except to provide targets and act as a justification for continuing Republican activity. The final, disillusioned, word rests with Mike Sawyer, an "A" Company sergeant back in 1968. "I don't think the hours and hours of time we put in patrolling, and working here, trying to win their hearts and minds, was worth it."

Also recommended tonight: **KING LEAR** (TV, 9.40pm), first seen on Channel 4, with the occasional burst of brilliant insight from an Olivier who had clearly left it too late to tackle this last unconquered pinnacle; and **MR WOLFE AND MR PERKINS** (Radio 3, 8.25pm), the first of two programmes based on the correspondence between Thomas Wolfe, author of *Look Homeward, Angel*, and his editor Max Perkins. A father-son relationship sprang up between the two men; a very special kind of personal and professional bond was forged.

Peter Davalle

Radio 4

6.00 **News Briefing**: Weather. 6.10 **Farming Today**. 6.25 **Shipping**. 6.30 **Today**, including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30. 6.45 **Prayers**. 6.55, 7.55. 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00. 7.20 **Weather**. 7.30, 8.30, 9.30, 10.30, 11.30, 12.30. 7.55 **Prayers**. 8.05 **Prayers**. 8.15 **Prayers**. 8.25 **Prayers**. 8.35 **Prayers**. 8.45 **Prayers**. 8.55 **Prayers**. 9.05 **Prayers**. 9.15 **Prayers**. 9.25 **Prayers**. 9.35 **Prayers**. 9.45 **Prayers**. 9.55 **Prayers**. 10.05 **Prayers**. 10.15 **Prayers**. 10.25 **Prayers**. 10.35 **Prayers**. 10.45 **Prayers**. 10.55 **Prayers**. 11.05 **Prayers**. 11.15 **Prayers**. 11.25 **Prayers**. 11.35 **Prayers**. 11.45 **Prayers**. 11.55 **Prayers**. 12.05 **Prayers**. 12.15 **Prayers**. 12.25 **Prayers**. 12.35 **Prayers**. 12.45 **Prayers**. 12.55 **Prayers**. 1.05 **Prayers**. 1.15 **Prayers**. 1.25 **Prayers**. 1.35 **Prayers**. 1.45 **Prayers**. 1.55 **Prayers**. 2.05 **Prayers**. 2.15 **Prayers**. 2.25 **Prayers**. 2.35 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